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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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BARBADOS.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1890.

(In continuation of Colonial Report No. 107, Old Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among others, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:

No.	Colony.	Year.
82	Leeward Islands - - - - -	1888
83	Natal (Liquor Traffic) - - - -	—
84	Hong Kong (Further Report) - - -	1889
85	Bahamas (Fibre Industry) - - - - -	—
86	Heligoland - - - - - - -	1889
87	Newfoundland - - - - -	1888
88	Mauritius, Seychelles, and Rodrigues - -	"
89	Zululand - - - - - - -	1889
90	Gibraltar - - - - - - -	"
91	Grenada - - - - - - -	"
92	Bermuda - - - - - - -	"
93	St. Vincent - - - - - - -	1888
94	St. Vincent - - - - - - -	1889
95	Bahamas - - - - - - -	"
96	St. Lucia - - - - - - -	"
97	British Bechuanaland - - - -	1888–9
98	Turks and Caicos - - - - - -	1888
99	Gambia - - - - - - -	"
100	Straits Settlements - - - - - -	"
101	St. Kitts-Nevis - - - - -	1886
102	Basutoland (Governor's visit) - - -	1890
103	British New Guinea - - - -	1888–9
104	Natal - - - - - - -	1889
105	Malta - - - - - - -	"
106	British Guiana - - - - - -	"
107	Barbados - - - - - - -	"
108	Trinidad and Tobago - - - -	"
109	Western Australia - - - - - -	1889
110	Gold Coast (Agriculture) - - - - -	1890
111	Lubuan - - - - - - -	1889
112	Jamacia - - - - - - -	"
113	Falkland Islands - - - - - -	"
114	Basutoland - - - - - - -	1889–90
115	Sierra Leone - - - - - -	1889
116	Fiji- - - - - - - -	"
117	Hong Kong - - - - - -	"
118	St. Helena - - - - - - -	"

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NEW SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
1	British Honduras - - - - -	1889
2	Mauritius - - - - - - -	"
3	British Bechuanaland - - - -	1889–90
4	Victoria - - - - - - -	1889
5	Newfoundland - - - - - -	"
6	British New Guinea - - - -	1889–90
7	St. Vincent - - - - - - -	1890
8	Bermuda - - - - - - -	"
9	Leeward Islands - - - - - -	1889
10	St. Lucia - - - - - - -	1890
11	Bahamas - - - - - - -	"
12	Turks and Caicos Islands - - - - -	"
13	Gibraltar - - - - - - -	"
14	Zululand - - - - - - -	"
15	Sierra Leone - - - - - -	"

No. 16.

BARBADOS.

BARBADOS.

[In continuation of Colonial Report No. 107, Old Series.]

Acting Governor SIR F. NAPIER BROOME to
LORD KNUTSFORD.

MY LORD, Government House, July 4, 1891.

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1890, together with a very complete report thereon by the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
The Right Hon. (Signed) F. NAPIER BROOME.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1890.

Taxes and Duties.

1. During the progress of consolidating the Acts of the Colony relating to fiscal imposts a few trifling alterations have been made in the fees payable in the Market and in the Court of Error, but no change worthy of note has occurred, and the principal duties leviable in the Colony remain the same as are imposed under the Trade Act, 1889. The taxes paid on land, horses, and dogs, and wheeled vehicles, remain unchanged.

Finance.

	£	s.	d.
2. The balance to the credit of the general revenue on 1st January was - - - -	54,626	18	6
The receipts during the year were -	186,179	6	3
Total - -	240,806	4	9
The expenditure during the year was	181,635	13	10½
Balance on 31st December 1890 -	59,170	10	10½

3. The revenue of 1890 was the largest ever collected in the Colony, and was 27,876*l.* 6*s.* 3*d.* in excess of the estimate. Of this excess the customs and excise duties yielded over 23,000*l.*, a satisfactory indication of the healthy condition of trade consequent on the reaping of a large crop of sugar.

4. The expenditure, which was within the estimate, includes two amounts of 10,000*l.* transferred from the general revenue and placed to separate accounts for the purposes of a new lunatic asylum and of proposed harbour works. The absolute disbursements for the requirements of the Colony during the year amounted, therefore, to 161,635*l.* 13*s.* 10½*d.*, an increase of over 15,000*l.* as compared with the expenditure of the previous year. This increase is mainly due to the increase of the police force—or rather to the restoring of the force—to its former strength before the passing of the Retrenchment Act of 1887, to the wider operations of the Public Works Department, to the importing of a steam fire-engine, and to a grant of 1,000*l.* voted by the Legislature towards the relief of the sufferers from the great fire in Martinique.

5. The following tables give the principal heads of revenue and expenditure as compared with the three previous years :—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Excise.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - -	116,415	30,517	39,247	186,179
1889 - -	111,438	26,206	37,076	174,720
1888 - -	100,287	24,997	37,429	162,713

Expenditure.

Year.	Salaries.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - -	68,960	112,675	181,635
1889 - -	65,896	80,210	146,106
1888 - -	65,205	84,504	149,709

6. The assets of the Colony at the close of the year were:—

	£	s.	d.
Balance in the Public Treasury -	59,170	10	10½
To credit of new lunatic asylum -	9,974	11	1
„ harbour works -	10,123	0	0
Loans to parishes, &c. - -	1,356	5	0
Water rates due from St. Michael's parish - - - -	1,833	6	8
Sinking fund for public debt (nominal value) - -	7,058	12	6
Total - -	89,516	6	1½

Public Debt.

7. The public debt was not increased during the year and remains at 30,100*l.*

Local Revenues.

8. Local revenues are raised and the proceeds expended by the vestries of the 11 parishes of the island. Rates are laid on the owners of land and houses and on profitable trades. Separate rates are raised for the maintenance of roads, and a tax is levied on horses, mules, asses, and wheeled vehicles. The revenue derived from this source is supplemented by an annual grant from the Legislature of 5,450*l.*

9. The total amount of revenue raised by the parochial vestries during the year, including the legislative grant of 5,450*l.*, was 51,663*l.* The parochial expenditure proper, including poor relief and the up-keep of churches, chapels, and schools, amounted to 33,635*l.*, and the amount expended on highways was 13,622*l.* Total parochial expenditure, 47,257*l.*

Military Expenditure.

10. The expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government for military purposes in the Colony was 53,090*l.*, an increase of 5,707*l.* as compared with 1889.

Public Works.

11. No new works of any importance were undertaken during the year, and the expenditure, amounting to 4,269*l.* 16*s.* 3*d.*, was incurred almost entirely on account of repairs and up-keep of existing buildings. A project for the improvement of Bridgetown, by purchasing and removing a number of small tenements erected along the sea front of the city and building a sea wall with an esplanade in their room, was sanctioned by the Legislature, and a

sum of 15,000*l.* voted for the carrying out of the first portion of the scheme. The preliminary survey of the properties to be purchased was commenced, and the further execution of the work is awaiting the completion of necessary legal formalities.

12. A report by Mr. Harrison Hayter on a proposed scheme of harbour improvements was received during the year, and the estimate of 300,000*l.* is reserved for future consideration.

Legislation.

12*a*. The Legislature was in session from the beginning of the year till the 28th October, and during that period 68 Acts were passed. The consolidation of existing statutes was commenced and 30 consolidating Acts were assented to. Of the remaining 38 measures the following are the most important :—

The Superannuation (Refund of Contributions) Act.
The Prosecution of Perjury Act.
The Bay Street Improvement Act.
The Public Buildings Insurance Act.
The Census Act.
The Customs Establishment Act.
The Water Supply Company Act Amendment Act.
The Pension Act.

Political Franchise.

12*b*. The elective franchise, as regulated by an Act of the Legislature passed in 1884, remains unchanged. The qualification of an elector is placed very low, being fixed at 5*l.* freehold, 15*l.* occupant or lodger, 4*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* salary, 50*l.* income and other minor qualifications, but out of a population of over 180,000 the number of electors registered at the last general election was only 2,341. There was a general election on 21st October 1890, the only contest occurring for one of the seats of the city of Bridgetown.

Councils and Assemblies.

13. *Executive Council.*—In the early part of the year the Executive Council was strengthened by the addition of Mr. W. H. Greaves, Solicitor-General, and Hon. G. C. Pile, President of Legislative Council.

Civil Establishment.

14. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. C. C. Knollys, was granted leave of absence from July to November, and was then appointed to act as Administrator of St. Lucia.

15. Mr. J. H. Brady was appointed Superintendent of Public Works in the place of Mr. L. Payne Gallwey, promoted to Demerara.

16. The office of Assistant Harbour Master was revived by an Act of the Legislature in January, and Mr. Alfred Browne was appointed.

17. Mr. P. L. Dillon was appointed Comptroller of Customs in December, *vice* Mr. J. K. Browne, placed on pension list.

Pensions.

18. Pensions were granted during the year to Mr. J. K. Browne, late Comptroller of Customs, 300*l.* per annum, and to five subordinate officials in the Police, Customs, and Education Departments, small sums varying from 10*l.* to 25*l.* per annum.

19. A Pension Act for public officers was passed by the Legislature in the month of October, but at the close of the year had not received Her Majesty's allowance.

Imports and Exports.

20. The following table shows the values of the imports and exports in 1890, as compared with those of the previous five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Increase.	Decrease.	Exports.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1885 - - -	890,690	—	265,539	1,003,893	—	314,985
1886 - - -	863,491	—	27,199	739,911	—	263,982
1887 - - -	983,187	119,696	—	1,063,397	323,486	—
1888 - - -	1,058,491	75,304	—	1,074,583	11,186	—
1889 - - -	1,211,370	152,879	—	1,029,588	—	44,995
1890 - - -	1,193,723	—	17,647	1,204,390	174,801	—

The direction of trade was as follows :—

Imports.

——	1890.	1889.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	508,697	508,245
British Colonies - - -	213,255	212,812
Foreign Countries - - -	471,770	490,313

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Exports.

———	1890.	1889.
	£	£
United Kingdom	130,540	131,385
British Colonies	317,056	278,198
Foreign Countries	756,793	620,005

21. The following comparative tables show the quantities and values of the principal articles imported into and exported from the Colony in the years 1889 and 1890:—

Quantities and value of Principal Articles Imported in the years 1889–1890.

Barbados. Imports.		1889.	1890.
Principal Articles.			
Butter	Lbs.	556,924	1,037,860
	£	20,885	38,920
Corn and grain	Bushels.	334,644	278,050
	£	57,256	54,128
Indian corn meal	Barrels.	47,172	45,321
	£	35,379	33,990
Flour, wheat, or rye	Barrels.	75,017	72,496
	£	93,772	90,620
Fish, dried	Quintals.	96,008	97,742
	£	57,605	58,645
Hardware and metals (new)	£	57,460	56,557
Linens and cottons	£	172,288	198,645
Lumber	Feet.	8,886,763	10,918,959
	£	26,660	32,757
Manure (guano)	Tons.	2,195	830
	£	21,950	8,300
Meat, salted	Lbs.	4,323,017	3,496,680
	£	54,037	43,708
Rice	Lbs.	15,556,442	11,909,007
	£	64,818	49,621
Staves and shooks	Pcs.	6,934,067	2,306,603
	£	62,407	20,759
Total value of principal and other articles.	£	1,211,370	1,193,723

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Quantities and value of Principal Articles Exported in the years 1889–1890.

Barbados. Exports.		1889.	1890.
Principal Articles.			
Fish, dried - -	Quintals.	54,284	56,789
	£	32,570	34,073
Flour, wheat, or rye -	Barrels.	31,054	20,238
	£	38,817	25,297
Salted meat - -	Lbs.	802,697	699,986
	£	10,034	8,750
Molasses - - -	Punches.	44,818	51,904
	£	140,056	162,200
Rice - - -	Lbs.	2,431,772	1,151,435
	£	10,132	4,798
Rum - - -	Gallons.	3,486	3,467
	£	261	260
Sugar, Raw - -	Hds.	62,338	81,868
	£	623,380	818,680
Total value of principal and other articles.	£	1,029,588	1,204,390

Additional Principal Articles Imported in the years 1889–1890.

Barbados. Imports.		1889.	1890.
Bread, navy pilot and crackers	Lbs.	4,379,655	4,295,590
	£	19,708	19,330
Coal and mixed preparations thereof and coke.	Tons.	19,068	19,761
	£	19,068	19,761
Manure, all other except guano	Tons.	17,178	10,330
	£	117,252	66,465
Oil, kerosine - -	Gallons.	313,094	391,436
	£	9,784	12,232
Soap - - -	Lbs.	1,391,200	1,555,728
	£	8,695	9,723
Spirits - -	Gallons.	76,222	95,254
	£	15,198	18,646
Tobacco - - -	Lbs.	220,606	249,577
	£	10,644	11,117

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Shipping.

22. The total number of vessels entered and cleared in 1890 was 2,929 with a tonnage of 1,246,262 tons, as against 2,771 vessels with a tonnage of 1,217,728 tons in 1889.

23. The following tables show the countries from and to which vessels entered and cleared in 1890 as compared with 1889, distinguishing sailing from steam vessels:—

Entered.

Countries from whence.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.
Great Britain - -	32	32	132	134	10,938	14,330	187,270	186,304
United States - -	98	122	60	52	25,802	38,542	58,774	52,411
British North America	124	127	7	—	14,731	19,014	6,513	—
British West Indies and Guiana - -	606	581	149	143	30,409	30,435	192,601	197,908
Foreign West Indies -	83	54	2	—	7,737	3,934	3,277	—
Brazil - - - -	70	34	4	1	31,330	15,169	3,850	1,920
Buenos Ayres - -	15	47	—	—	9,271	26,606	—	—
Other countries - -	75	70	3	—	31,210	25,170	6,470	—
Total - - -	1,103	1,067	357	330	161,428	173,200	458,755	438,543

Cleared.

Countries to which.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.	1890.	1889.
Great Britain - -	10	18	44	44	4,955	5,628	71,141	72,065
United States - -	120	164	26	25	53,125	71,428	25,274	26,593
British North America	179	97	5	—	35,153	20,085	4,380	—
British West Indies and Guiana - -	667	638	277	244	48,441	53,571	352,461	319,460
Foreign West Indies -	85	95	5	5	12,821	14,069	4,118	5,089
Other countries - -	48	38	3	6	8,200	6,452	6,010	11,545
Total - - -	1,109	1,050	360	324	162,695	171,233	463,384	434,752

Education.

24. Elementary Schools.—At the close of the year there were 201 schools of this class receiving Government aid, of these 64 were primary, 24 combined, and 113 infant schools. The number of schools is the same at the close of 1889, but the attendance has increased by 1,345. The average attendance for the year under report was 14,284, as against 12,939 in the previous year. The total expenditure from the Colonial Treasury for salaries to teachers of elementary schools was 8,488*l.*, an increase of 131*l.* over the expenditure for 1889. The supervision of the schools was greatly assisted by the appointment of an inspector's assistant, who rendered efficient help to the inspector and sub-inspector in visiting and examining schools both in the northern and southern districts of the island. Elementary school work was sent as an exhibit to the Jamaica Exhibition, and honourable mention by the Exhibition Commission was obtained in several cases.

25. Second Grade Schools.—There were four second grade schools at work during the year, the one at Pilgrim Place having been closed for lack of attendance. These schools are as follows:—Combermere School Bridgetown. Established 1879; assisted by a leigslative grant of 200*l.* per annum, and endowed from other sources with an annual income of 182*l.* Number of pupils at close of 1890, 99. Coleridge School, in the parish of Saint Peter. Established in 1880; assisted by a legislative grant of 100*l.* per annum. Number of pupils at close of 1890, 24. Alleyne School, in the parish of Saint Andrew, established 1880; assisted by a legislative grant of 100*l.* and with a small private endowment of 38*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* Number of pupils at close of 1890, 25, The Parry School, in the parish of St. Lucy. Established in 1880; assisted by a legislative grant of 100*l.* per annum. Number of pupils at close of 1890, 38.

26. First Grade Schools.—Harrison College, in the town, and the Lodge school in the interior of the island, are the only two schools of this class for boys in the Colony. Harrison College, established in 1833, is assisted by a legislative grant of 1,000*l.* per annum, and there were 147 boys on the books at the close of 1890. The Lodge School, established in 1881, is assisted by a legislative grant of 500*l.* per annum, and had an attendance of 42 boys at the close of 1890.

27. Both these schools are conducted by university men, the former having a head master and eight assistant masters, the latter a head master and two assistant masters. There are boarding establishments attached to both schools under the direct supervision of the head masters.

28. The Queen's College, which is the only public school in the island for girls, is situate in Bridgetown, and is conducted by a head mistress, four assistant mistresses, and a music master. It was established in 1880, and at the close of 1890 had an attendance of 107 pupils. The school is assisted by a legislative grant of

400*l.* per annum, and may be regarded as one of the most flourishing educational institutions in the Colony.

29. Codrington College, which was founded in 1745, is supported by a legacy of General Codrington administered by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is the only collegiate institution in the West Indies, being affiliated to Durham University. Four scholarships, each of the value of 40*l.* per annum, are endowed by the Legislature. The number of students at the close of the year was 17.

Ecclesiastical.

30. There are 11 parish churches in the island, 33 chapels, and two chapel schools, making a total of 46 places of worship belonging to the Church of England.

31. The endowment of the Church of England from the general revenue is 11,500*l.*; each rector has a house and glebe, 14 of the curates have houses, and 16 receive an allowance from the vestry for house rent.

32. On a principle of concurrent endowment an annual grant is made to other denominations as follows:—

Roman Catholic - -	50*l.*	per annum.
Wesleyan - - -	700*l.*	,,
Moravians - - -	400*l.*	,,

Reformatory and Industrial School.

33. The Reformatory, established in 1883 and maintained at an annual cost of about 1,900*l.*, is doing a good work in the Colony.

The number of inmates on 1st January 1890 - - - -	115	
Out on licence - - -	3	
		118
Received during the year, committed by the Chief Justice and the several Police Magistrates - - -		24
		142
Discharged during the year - -	18	
Pardoned by the Governor - -	2	
Out on licence - - -	1	
Died - - - - -	1	
		22
Total remaining 31st December 1890 -		120

34. The total cost of maintenance per boy, including provision, clothing, furniture, tools, and implements, hospital and medicine, water, light, and miscellaneous expenditure, was 5*l.* 18*s.* 11*d.*

35. The boys are employed chiefly on agricultural work cultivating the land belonging to the institution, and assisting in the experimental planting which the superintendent, as head of the botanical station, carries out. Trades are taught, and each boy is put through a course of elementary schooling.

Savings Bank.

36. The increased transactions of the savings bank during the year point to the steady progress of the institution as is shown in the following comparative table :—

Year.	No. of Depositors on 31st December.	Amount deposited during the Year.	Amount withdrawn during the Year.	Amount in Deposit on 31st December.
	£	£	£	£
1885 - -	6,878	42,596	39,105	61,638
1886 - -	7,290	43,938	41,995	65,289
1887 - -	7,763	62,151	51,393	77,946
1888 - -	8,364	77,047	60,146	97,210
1889 - -	9,067	106,741	81,311	125,708
1890 - -	9,716	106,229	100,773	134,521

37. The reserve fund at the end of the year was 4,385*l.*, which, added to the amount on deposit, make the total funds of the bank 138,906*l.*, or 9,594*l.* more than they were at the end of 1889.

38. The annual return shows the following disposition of the funds :—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Mortgages on landed security -	11,497	10	7
English Consols - - -	17,032	4	3
New South Wales Stock - -	18,370	18	9
South Australian Stock - -	7,358	15	0
Victoria Stock - - -	6,840	5	0
Cape of Good Hope Stock - -	3,990	18	9
Ceylon Stock - - - -	6,143	2	11
Canada Stock - - -	16,515	11	7
Barbados Government Debentures -	26,000	0	0
Loans to parishes - - -	1,676	10	0
Colonial Bank at deposit receipt -	22,300	0	0
Colonial Bank at current account -	958	14	2
Balance in hand - - -	221	18	10
Total - - -	138,906	9	10

Criminal Statistics.

39. The total number of offences reported to the police or magistrates during the year was 4,213. This number is less than the average for the 10 years 1881–1890 inclusive, which is 4,243, and is also less than the corresponding number in 1889, which was 4,791. The average for the five years 1881–1885 inclusive is 4,363, and that for the five years 1886–1890 inclusive is 4,123. The number for 1890 as well as that for 1889 is, therefore, in excess of the average for the last five years.

40. The number of offences against the person reported in 1890 was 693. This is less than the corresponding number in 1889, which was 831, but is above the average for the last five years, which is 559.

41. Prædial larceny shows a decrease, the number of cases reported during the year being 860, the average for the last five years being 936.

42. The number of offences against property other than prædial larceny was 1,183. This is just above the five years' average, which is 1,167, but it is below the number for 1889, which is 1,247.

43. The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates in 1890 was 10,354, or 138 less than the corresponding number in 1889. Of the persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates in 1890, 2,480, or not quite 24 per cent. of the whole number, were acquitted. The total number of convictions was 7,875, of which 94 were convictions in the superior courts and 7,781 were summary convictions. As compared with 1889 the summary convictions were 211 more and the convictions in the superior courts were two less.

44. The criminal statistics for 1890 may be regarded as on the whole satisfactory. The numbers given compare favourably with those for the preceding 10 years, even on the assumption that the population has remained the same during that period; and when it is considered that the population is increasing and that no corresponding increase in crime is discernible the result must be viewed with satisfaction.

Gaols and Prisoners.

45. The numbers of male adult persons committed during the year for all purposes was 1,493, being 81 in excess of the year 1889. The number of male juveniles was 57, being 20 less than in the previous year.

46. On the female side the number of adult prisoners committed for all purposes was 1,504, being 34 less than 1889. There were 26 juveniles, being 7 more than in the previous year.

47. During the year 11 prisoners were released on tickets of leave. The "mark system" has been introduced and is made applicable to penal servitude men. Under it every such convict has it in his power to earn a remission not exceeding one-fourth

of his sentence, and he is also allowed, in proportion to the amount of remission earned, a gratuity not in any case exceeding 2*l.*

48. The discipline on the male side of the prison where the separate system is in force has been good. The Act passed in 1888 to punish persistent malingering under the provisions of which malingerers are at the expiration of their original sentence detained for a further period equal in duration to the time passed in punishment has had a remarkably good effect, the number of prisoners punished for malingering being 161, as against 375 for the year 1889 and 467 for the year 1888.

49. On the female side, where for want of accommodation the associated still to some extent exists, the discipline has not been so well maintained; and it is hoped that the arrangements now being made for the further provision of separate cells will soon be completed.

50. The cooperage was carried on during the year, but owing to the high prices which had to be paid for material and the low price at which the packages were sold the profits for the year were small, being only 54*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.*, as against 425*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.* in 1889.

51. The prisoners were also employed in mattress-making; 114 beds, 140 pillows, and 50 bolsters were made for the General Hospital out of cocoanut fibre picked in the prison. As the cocoanut husk and all the materials are supplied by the hospital authorities, and as no charge is made for labour, no profits arise from this industry.

52. A new hospital, built in most part by convict labour, was completed during the year and was occupied on 10th December.

53. The sanitary report of the prison is good. On the male side the death rate per 1,000 was 17·1 as against 36·5 in 1889, on the female side 18·3 as against 18·2 in 1889.

Agriculture.

54. By far the greater portion of the land under cultivation is devoted to the production of the sugar cane, which forms the staple produce of the island. The following table shows the amount of sugar, molasses, and rum exported in 1890 as compared with the three previous years:—

Year.	Sugar.		Molasses.		Rum.	
	Hogsheads.	Value.	Puncheons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.
		£		£		£
1887 -	68,872	702,925	44,239	138,248	91	7
1888 -	73,009	751,424	42,832	133,850	74	6
1889 -	65,268	667,330	44,818	140,056	3,422	256
1890 -	85,261	869,575	51,904	162,200	95	7

BARBADOS.

Health.

55. The health of the Island was remarkably good throughout the year.

(Signed) C. A. KING HARMAN,
27th June 1891. Acting Colonial Secretary.

LONDON: Printed by EYRE and SPOTTISWOODE,
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COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

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No. 42.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1891.

(For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 16.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
June 1892.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
6	British New Guinea	1889–90
7	St. Vincent	1890
8	Bermuda	”
9	Leeward Islands	1889
10	St. Lucia	1890
11	Bahamas	”
12	Turks and Caicos Islands	”
13	Gibraltar	”
14	Zululand	”
15	Sierra Leone	”
16	Barbados	”
17	Falkland Islands	”
18	Labuan	”
19	British Honduras	”
20	Basutoland	1890–91
21	Trinidad and Tobago	1890
22	Leeward Islands	”
23	Grenada	”
24	Straits Settlements	”
25	British Guiana	”
26	St. Helena	”
27	Mauritius	”
28	Gambia	”
29	Hong Kong	”
30	Ceylon	1889
31	Lagos	”
32	Lagos	1890
33	Ceylon	”
34	Newfoundland	”
35	Jamaica	1889–91
36	Victoria	1890
37	British New Guinea	1890–91
38	St. Vincent	1891
39	Bermuda	”
40	Seychelles and Rodrigues	1889 and 1890
41	Gambia	1891

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.

No. 42.

Barbados.

BARBADOS.

[For Report for 1890, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 16.]

Sir J. S. Hay to Lord Knutsford.

My Lord, Government House, April 14, 1892.

I have the honour to transmit six copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1891, and enclose the report thereon which has been furnished to me by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. S. Hay.

The Right Hon.
Lord Knutsford, G.C.M.G.
&c. &c. &c.

Blue Book Report, 1891.

Taxes and Duties.

1. The principal alterations under this head are to be found in the table of exemptions from duty, several articles having been added, among which may be mentioned copper, bronze, lead, and zinc articles, tallow candles, implements, &c. for agriculture, medicinal extracts, lamps and lanterns, &c. A reduction of 50 per cent. has been made in the duty on a few other articles such as bread, biscuits, cheese, &c., and a reduction of 25 per cent. in the duty on salt beef, corn or maize, flour, &c. The above changes are the outcome of the negotiations which were entered into with the United States Government to obtain the admission of sugar, duty free, into the United States, under the McKinley Tariff Act. It was estimated that the loss to the revenue by this arrangement would be about 12,000*l.*, and to cover this loss the Legislature has passed an Act raising the duty on spirits. The Excise duty on rum was raised from 1*s.* 6*d.* to 1*s.* 10*d.* the gallon; the duty on spirits and cordials, except rum and gin, and perfumed spirits to be used as perfumery only, from 7*s.* 6*d.* to 10*s.* the gallon; sparkling wine from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* the gallon, and all other kinds of wine from 11¼*d.* to 2*s.* the gallon.

Finance.

	£	s.	d.
2. The balance on 1st January was -	59,170	10	10½
The receipts during the year were -	163,905	17	5
Total - -	223,076	8	3½
The expenditure during the year was -	176,800	19	8
Balance on 31st December - -	46,275	8	7½

3. The revenue of 1891, which was 12,528*l.* 7*s.* 5*d.* in excess of the estimate, was, however, 22,273*l.* 8*s.* 10*d.* less than that of the previous year; but when it is taken into consideration that the sugar crop of 1890 was the largest ever reaped, over 85,000 hds. having been exported, while in 1891 not quite 50,000 hds. were shipped, this large decrease in the revenue is sufficiently accounted for.

4. The expenditure during the year was 1,874*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* in excess of the estimate, and at first sight appears to be 4,834*l.* 14*s.* 2*d* less than in 1890, but in the year 1890 a sum of 20,000*l.* was withdrawn from the general revenue for the purposes of a new lunatic asylum and harbour works, and cannot proper be taken as forming part of the expenditure of that year; and in 1891, 6,363*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.* was paid on account of the salaries for the month of December, in previous years paid in January of the ensuing year, making 13 months' salaries to be accounted for in the year. If therefore the expenditure in 1890 is reduced by 20,000*l.* and that in 1891 by 6,363*l.* 6*s.* 11*d.*, the result shows an increased expenditure in 1891 of 8,801*l.* 18*s.* 10½*d.* This increase is due to the increase in the staffs of certain departments, to the large outlay in the Public Works Department, to a remittance to England for the purchase of barges for the dredger; to a grant of 1,000*l.* voted by the Legislature for the relief of the sufferers by the hurricane in Martinique and to the cost of taking the census.

5. The following tables give the principal heads of revenue and expenditure as compared with the three previous years :—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Excise.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1891 - -	99,780	25,298	38,827	163,905
1890 - -	116,415	30,517	39,247	186,179
1889 - -	111,438	26,206	37,076	174,720
1888 - -	100,287	24,997	37,429	162,713

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Expenditure.

Year.	Salaries.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£
1891 - -	*78,249	98,551	176,800
1890 - -	68,960	112,675	181,635
1889 - -	65,896	80,210	146,106
1888 - -	65,205	84,504	149,709

* Salaries for 13 months.

Public Debt.

6. The public debt remains the same as in the previous year, viz., 30,100*l.*, towards the redemption of which the sinking fund now amounts to 8,371*l.*

Local Revenues.

7. The total amount of revenue raised by the parochial vestries during the year, including the legislative grant of 5,450*l.* for roads, was 56,679*l.* The parochial expenditure amounted to 55,723*l.*, of which 40,777*l.* has been expended in poor relief and the upkeeps of churches, chapels, and schools, and 14,946*l.* on highways.

Military Expenditure.

8. The expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government for military purposes in the Colony was 54,186*l.*, or 1,096*l.* more than in 1890.

Public Works

9. The following were the principal public works in course of construction during the year. A new lunatic asylum, powder magazine, quarantine hospital on Pelican Island, female prison extension at Glendary.

10. A revised harbour improvement scheme was prepared by Mr. J. H. Brady, the Superintendent of Public Works, which is likely to receive favourable consideration by the Legislature.

Legislation.

11. The Legislative Session commenced in January 1891, and ended in the following January. 97 Acts were passed during the Session, 89 of which were assented to in 1891. The consolidation of existing statutes, which was commenced in 1890, was continued,

BARBADOS.

and 59 consolidating Acts were assented to; of the remaining 38 Acts the following are the most important:—

The Saint Michael's Parish Rating and Loan Act.
The Contempt of Court Act Amendment Act.
The Pension Act, 1890, Amendment Act, 1891.
The Friendly Societies Act Amendment Act.
The Evidence Act Amendment Act.
The Customs Tariff Act.

Political Franchise.

12. "The Representation of the People Act, 1891," which consolidates the Acts regulating the franchise, makes no change in the qualification of an elector, except that under the head income there is added the receipt of an annual income of 50*l.* derived from a pension. A general election was held on 26th January 1891, the only contest being one of the seats for the rural part of the parish of St. Michael.

Councils and Assemblies.

13. The *Executive Council* and *Executive Committee* were the same as in 1890.

14. *House of Assembly.*—Mr. C. P. Bowen was elected in place of Dr. A. Bayne for the rural part of the parish of St. Michael, and Mr. J. C. Packer in the place of Mr. E. T. Kellman for St. Lucy.

Civil Establishment.

15. His Excellency Sir W. J. Sendall left for England on the 14th March, and Major General J. M. G. Tongue administered the Government from the 14th to 15th March, Sir F. N. Broome arrived in the Colony and administered the Government from the 16th March to the 17th August. Major General Tongue then again assumed the administration from the 18th August till the 24th November, when he was superseded by Sir J. S. Hay.

16. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. C. C. Knollys, was absent from the Island till the 2nd of August; Mr. C. A. King Harman acted.

17. The Colonial Treasurers Act vests the appointment of the Treasury clerks in the Governor and they were re-appointed accordingly.

18. An assistant clerk was temporarily added to the Public Works Department at a salary of 60*l.* per annum, the work in that department being greatly increased owing to the number of public works in course of erection.

19. The salary of the Colonial Postmaster was increased under the Post Office Act, 1891, from 500*l.* to 600*l.* per annum.

20. Colonel J. Elliott, Inspector General of Police, was on leave from 31st January to 9th November, Mr. H. H. Haynes, the Inspector of Police, acting.

Pensions.

21. Pensions were granted during the year to Thomas Kerr, C.M.G., formerly Judge of Assistant Court of Appeal, 275*l.*; Reverend Canon R. F. Berkeley, rector of St. Philip's, 134*l.* 11*s.* 2*d.*; F. Tinling, clerk of the Assistant Court of Appeal, 77*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*; W. C. Bailey, police magistrate's clerk, 50*l.*, and to six other subordinate officials of the police, prisons, and fire brigade.

Population.

22. The population of the Island, by census of 5th April 1891, was 182,306, that by census of 1881 was 171,452, showing an increase of 10,854, and giving an average of 1,096 persons to the square mile, against 1,030 in 1881.

23. In so densely populated an island an increase in the population of over 1,000 per year is a serious matter. The great disproportion in the sexes, an excess of 20,096 females being shown, is ascribed to emigration, the majority of emigrants being male adults, a great number of whom periodically return to the Island.

25. The number of persons stated as employed in agriculture was 44,995; in manufactures, 4,690, and in commerce, 8,607.

26. The number of baptisms during the year was 7,769, and of burials, 6,794, the former being 975 in excess of the latter.

Savings Bank.

27. The transactions of the savings bank during the year are shown in the annexed comparative table:—

Year.	No. of Depositors on 31st December.	Amount deposited during the Year.	Amount withdrawn during the Year.	Amount in Deposit on 31st December.
	£	£	£	£
1886 - -	7,290	43,938	41,995	65,289
1887 - -	7,763	62,151	51,393	77,946
1888 - -	8,364	77,047	60,146	97,210
1889 - -	9,067	106,741	81,311	125,708
1890 - -	9,716	106,229	100,773	134,521
1891 - -	9,936	89,565	94,293	—

Education

28. Elementary schools.—The number of schools of this class receiving Government aid was the same as in 1890, viz., 201; of these 62 were primary, 28 combined and 111 infant schools. The

average attendance for the year was 13,624, a falling off of 660 from the average in 1890. The expenditure from the Colony Treasury for salaries to teachers of elementary schools was 8,943*l.*, an increase of 455*l.* over the expenditure for the previous year.

29. Second Grade Schools.—The second grade were four in number and were as follows:—Combermere School, Bridgetown, number of pupils, 103. Coleridge School in the parish of Saint Peter, number of pupils, 27. Alleyne School, in the parish of Saint Andrew, number of pupils, 21. The parish school in the parish of Saint Peter, number of pupils, 36.

30. First Grade Schools.—There are three first grade schools, two for boys and one for girls. Harrison College (for boys) has a staff of one head master and eight assistant masters; number of pupils, 157.

The Lodge School for boys has a head master and two assistant masters, number of pupils, 40.

31. Queens College, the only public school in the Island for girls, is conducted by a head mistress and six assistant mistresses and a music master; number of pupils, 126.

32. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, had 15 students.

Ecclesiastical.

The rectorship of St. Philip's became vacant during the year on the resignation of Canon R. F. Berkeley, who retired on a pension. Mr. E. L. Smith was appointed. The curacy of St. Mary's was vacant consequent on the resignation of Mr. F. Skinner.

Reformatory and Industrial School.

34. The number of inmates in the reformatory on 1st of January was - -	120	
Number out on licence - - -	1	
		121
Received during the year, committed by the Chief Justice and the several police magistrates - - -		34
Total - - - - -		155
Discharged during the year - -	32	
Pardoned by the Governor - -	2	
Died - - - - -	1	
Transferred to lunatic asylum - -	1	
Out on licence - - -	1	
		37
Total remaining 31st December 1891 -		118

Barbados.

35. The total cost of maintenance per boy, including provision, clothing, furniture, tools, and implements, hospital and medicine, &c., was 5*l.* 11*s.* 0¼*d.*, or 7*s.* 10¾*d.* per boy per annum less than the previous year.

Imports and Exports.

36. The following table shows the values of imports and exports in 1891, as compared with those of the previous five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Increase.	Decrease.	Exports.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	
1886 - -	863,491	—	27,199	739,911	—	263,982
1887 - - -	983,187	119,696	—	1,063,397	323,486	—
1888 - - -	1,058,491	75,304	—	1,074,583	11,186	—
1889 - - -	1,211,370	152,879	—	1,029,588	—	44,995
1890 - - -	1,193,723	—	17,647	1,204,390	174,801	—
1891 - - -	1,067,617	—	126,106	814,254	—	390,136

The direction of trade was as follows :—

Imports.

Country.	1891.	1890.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	432,637	508,697
British Colonies - - -	207,185	213,255
Foreign Countries - - -	427,794	471,770

Exports.

Country.	1891.	1890.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	74,605	130,540
British Colonies - - -	261,765	317,056
Foreign Countries - - -	477,883	756,793

BARBADOS.

37. The following comparative tables show the quantities and values of the principal articles imported into and exported from the Colony in the years 1890 and 1891:—

Quantities and Values of Principal Articles imported in the years 1890–1891.

Barbados. Imports.		1890.	1891.
Principal Articles.			
Butter - -	Lbs.	1,037,860	708,633
	£	38,920	26,573
Corn and grain -	Bushels	278,050	326,233
	£	54,128	64,334
Indian corn meal -	Barrels	45,321	46,822
	£	33,990	35,116
Flour, wheat, or rye	Barrels	72,496	71,676
	£	90,620	89,595
Fish, dried - -	Quintals	97,742	80,676
	£	58,645	48,405
Hardware and metals (new)	£	56,557	32,910
Linens and cottons -	£	198,645	130,544
Lumber - -	Feet	10,918,959	9,957,736
	£	32,757	29,873
Manure - -	Tons	11,160	13,287
	£	74,765	88,118
Meat, salted -	Lbs.	3,496,680	2,777,976
	£	43,708	34,725
Rice - -	Lbs.	11,909,007	20,406,013
	£	49,621	85,025
Staves and shooks -	Pcs.	2,306,603	2,736,163
	£	20,759	24,625
Bread, navy pilot and crackers	Lbs.	4,295,590	4,360,721
	£	19,330	19,623
Coal, mixed preparations thereof and coke -	Tons	19,760	18,028
	£	19,761	18,028
Oil, kerosine -	Gallons	391,436	360,592
	£	12,232	11,268
Spirits - -	Gallons	95,254	79,648
	£	18,646	16,376
Tobacco - -	Lbs.	249,577	162,904
	£	11,117	8,396
Total value of Imports -	£	1,193,723	1,067,617

Quantities and Value of Principal Articles exported in the years 1890–1891.

Barbados. Exports.		1890.	1891.
Principal Articles.			
Fish, dried - - -	Quintals	56,789	46,654
	£	34,073	27,992
Flour, wheat, or rye -	Barrels	20,238	22,437
	£	25,297	28,046
Salted meat - -	Lbs.	699,986	643,518
	£	8,750	8,044
Molasses - - -	Puncheons	51,904	32,318
	£	162,200	100,994
Rice - - -	Lbs.	1,151,435	5,680,348
	£	4,798	23,668
Rum - - -	Gallons	3,467	3,198
	£	260	239
Sugar, Raw - -	Hds.	81,868	48,186
	£	818,680	481,860
Total value of principal and other articles - -	£	1,204,390	814,254

Shipping.

38. The total number of vessels entered and cleared in 1891 was 2,677, with a tonnage of 1,178,305 tons; 628 of these, with a tonnage of 884,742 tons, were steam vessels; and 2,049, with a tonnage of 293,563 tons, were sailing vessels.

39. The following tables show the countries from and to which vessels entered and cleared in 1891 as compared with 1890, distinguishing sailing from steam vessels:—

Entered.

Countries from whence.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.
Great Britain - -	32	32	133	132	10,866	10,938	200,234	187,270
United States - -	96	98	42	60	29,460	25,802	40,987	58,774
British North America	106	124	9	7	15,354	14,731	10,309	6,513
British West Indies and Guiana - -	578	606	116	149	31,400	30,409	161,176	192,601
Foreign West Indies -	80	83	2	2	5,392	7,737	3,216	3,277
Brazil - - - -	53	70	3	4	25,612	31,330	4,968	3,850
Buenos Ayres - -	5	15	—	—	2,625	9,271	—	—
Other countries - -	74	75	9	3	25,383	31,210	21,481	6,470
Total - - -	1,024	1,103	314	357	146,082	161,428	442,371	458,755

Cleared.

Countries to which.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.	1891.	1890.
Great Britain - -	7	10	36	44	4,778	4,955	68,727	71,141
United States - -	117	120	30	26	51,286	53,125	32,735	25,274
British North America	100	179	6	5	19,751	35,153	6,520	4,380
British West Indies and Guiana - -	627	667	228	277	44,733	48,441	321,692	352,461
Foreign West Indies -	109	85	8	5	16,503	12,821	7,152	4,118
Other countries - -	65	48	6	3	10,430	8,200	5.545	6,010
Total - - -	1,025	1,109	314	360	147,481	162,695	442,371	434,752

Criminal Statistics.

40. The total number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1891 was 5,079, or 866 more than in 1890. The average for the five years 1882–1886 inclusive is 4,376; that for the five years 1887–1891 inclusive is 4,261.

Apprehensions and Summonses.

41. The number of persons apprehended or summoned before the magistrates was 41,302, or 984 more than in 1890; of this number 2,897, or a little over 25 per cent. of the whole number, were acquitted. The total number of convictions was 8,393, 102 of which were convictions in the superior courts, and 8,291 were summary convictions. The summary convictions were thus 612 more, and the convictions in the superior courts 8 more, than in 1890.

42. The number of offences against the person in 1891 was 629, being 64 less than the number in 1890, and giving an average for the last five years of nearly 591.

43. The number of cases of prædial larceny reported was 1,544 as against 860 in 1890; the average for the last five years being 1,019.

44. The number of offences against property other than prædial larceny was 1,589, or 406 more than in 1890. The average for the last five years was 1,246,

45. Other offences numbered 1,317, a decrease of 160 in the number for the previous year.

Gaols and Prisoners.

46. In 1891, the number of male adult persons committed was 2,041, being 548 in excess of the year 1890. The number of male juveniles was 78, being 21 in excess of the previous year.

BARBADOS.

47. The number of female adults were 1,756, being 252 more than in 1890. There were 37 juveniles, being 11 more than in the year before.

48. Ten convicts were released during the year on ticket of leave, under the mark system, with a gratuity.

49. The discipline among the male prisoners was good on the whole. Malingering, which still heads the list of prison offences, shows a total of 231 against 161 last year, but few cases of persistent malingering were reported.

50. Among the female prisoners great difficulty was experienced in enforcing discipline, the prisoners being crowded together during the building of a second storey.

51. The profit realised by the cooperage still continues to decrease, being only 35*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, against 54*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* in 1890 and 425*l.* 15*s.* 6*d* in 1889.

52. Mattresses were made for the General Hospital out of cocoanut fibre supplied by the hospital authorities, but no charge was made for the labour.

53. The sanitary condition of the prison was good, 82 male prisoners were treated in the prison hospital during the year, 7 of whom died, and 72 female prisoners, one of whom died. Dysentery and fever were the prevailing diseases.

Agriculture.

The following table shows the amount of sugar, molasses, and rum, the three principal products of the Island, exported in 1891 as compared with the three previous years:—

Year.	Sugar.		Molasses.		Rum.	
	Hogsheads.	Value.	Puncheons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.
		£		£		£
1888 -	73,009	751,424	42,832	133,850	74	6
1889 -	65,268	667,330	44,818	140,056	3,422	256
1890 -	85,261	869,575	51,904	162,200	95	7
1891 -	50,547	517,275	32,318	100,993	641	48

Health.

55. Throughout the year influenza of a mild type was prevalent. There were also many cases of dysentery, and typhoid fever during the hot season, but on the whole the health of the Island may be said to have been fairly satisfactory.

C. C. KNOLLYS.
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office.
Barbadoes.
14th April 1892.

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BARBADOS.
1892.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1891, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 42.)

Sir J. S. HAY to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House,
June 14, 1893.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1892, and enclose the Report thereon which has been furnished to me by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. S. HAY.

The Most Hon.
The Marquess of Ripon, K.G., G.C.S.I., C.I.E.
&c. &c. &c.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1892.

Taxes and Duties.

1. The taxes and duties leviable in the Colony remain almost unchanged. The only alterations worthy of note are (1) that "The Rum Duty Act, 1892," makes the sum payable for a license to keep a still for the manufacture of rum 30*l.* instead of 35*l.*, and (2) that the allowances to Her Majesty's military forces stationed in this island, in lieu of exemptions from duty, have been increased. This increase, viz., of 3½*d.* per diem to officers and 1½*d.* per diem to sergeants, was the outcome of a representation made by the military authorities to the Government that in view of the increased duties on wines and spirits under "The Customs Tariff Act, 1892," a corresponding increase should be made to the Military Duty Allowances. An Act was accordingly passed by the Legislature amending the Military Duty Allowance Act to the extent already mentioned.

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1892.

Finance.

	£	s.	d.
2. The balance on 1st January was -	46,275	8	7½
The receipts during the year were -	162,663	17	4
Total - -	208,939	5	11½
The expenditure during the year was -	199,129	18	2½
Balance on 31st December - -	£9,809	7	9

3. The revenue of 1892 was 1,242*l.* 0*s.* 1*d.* less than that of 1891, but was 1,876*l.* 17*s.* 4*d.* in excess of the estimate. Under import duties there was a falling off of 7,749*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*, for which the operation of "The Customs Tariff Act, 1891," passed in consequence of the United States McKinley Tariff Act, is accountable, as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Loss under "The Customs Tariff Act, 1891" - - - -	12,236	15	6
Gain under "The Tariff Act, 1892," increasing duty on wines and spirits -	2,779	13	4
Total loss - -	9,457	2	2
Gain on increased importations -	1,707	12	8
Loss on import duties - - -	£7,749	9	6

4. The expenditure for the year was 36,467*l.* 0*s.* 10½*d.* in excess of the revenue, but in order to compare the two fairly the following items of expenditure must be deducted:—

New lunatic asylum 23,500*l.*, Bay Street improvements 12,062*l.*, revision of the laws 1,346*l.*, total 36,908*l.*, when the ordinary expenditure will be found to be 442*l.* less than the revenue. Rejecting similarly the extraordinary expenditure of the year 1891, the expenditure of 1892 was 8,216 less than that of 1891.

5. The following tables give the principal heads of revenue and expenditure as compared with the three previous years:—

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Excise.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1892 - -	92,340	28,919	41,404	162,663
1891 - -	99,780	25,298	38,827	163,905
1890 - -	116,415	30,517	39,247	186,179
1889 - -	111,438	26,206	37,076	174,720

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Expenditure.

Year.	Salaries.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£
1892 - -	73,253	125,876	199,129
1891 - -	*78,249	98,551	176,800
1890 - -	68,960	112,675	181,635
1889 - -	65,896	80,210	149,709

* Salaries for 13 months.

Public Debt.

6. The Public Debt is 30,100*l.*, and the sinking fund to redeem it now amounts to 9,799*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*

Local Revenues.

7. The total amount of revenue raised by the parochial vestries during the year, including the legislative grant of 5,450*l.* for the upkeep of roads, was 50,362*l.* The parochial expenditure amounted to 53,784*l.*, of which 39,917*l.* was expended in poor relief and the upkeep of churches, chapels, and schools, and 13,867*l.* on highways. These amounts are based on the returns sent in for the year ended 31st March 1892. No returns were received from the parish of St. George.

Military Expenditure.

8. The expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government for military purposes in the Colony was 56,316*l.*, or 2,130*l.* more than in the previous year.

Public Works.

9. The New Lunatic Asylum, which was in course of construction in 1891, was rapidly proceeded with during the year and is now completed, and was formally opened by the Governor on April 5th 1893. This building has been erected departmentally and reflects great credit on the Superintendent of Public Works, under whose personal supervision the work was carried out.

10. The revised scheme for harbour improvements, for which a loan of 200,000*l.* has been authorised, is still under consideration.

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Legislation.

11. The Legislative Session of 1892–93 began on the 26th April 1892, and ended on the 25th April 1893. 48 Acts were passed during the session, and of this number 22 received the Governor's Assent in 1892. The following are the most important:—

"The Prevention of the Spreading of Infectious Diseases Act, 1892."
"The Immigration of Paupers (Prevention) Act, 1892."
"The Rum Duty Act, 1892."
"The Poor Relief Act, 1892."

12. The Legislature was much engaged during the Session in passing consolidated laws for the revised edition of the Acts of the island which will shortly be issued.

Political Franchise.

13. The political franchise of the Colony is regulated by "The Representation of the People Act, 1891." A general election was held on 25th April 1892; there were contests for the seats for the City of Bridgetown and the rural part of the parish of St. Michael, and for the parish of St. Peter.

Councils and Assemblies.

14. The Executive Council and Executive Committee were the same as in 1891.

15. *House of Assembly.*—Mr. B. Inniss was elected *vice* Mr. J. C. Lynch for the city of Bridgetown. Mr. J. T. Jones was elected *vice* Mr. W. W. Gowdey for the parish of St. Andrew, and Messrs. C. J. Greenidge and R. L. Culpeper *vice* Messrs. J. H. Weatherhead and W. T. Kellman for St. James. In St. Thomas' parish Mr. W. N. Phillips resigned his seat and Mr. Thomas Parris was elected in his stead.

Civil Establishment.

16. His Excellency Governor Sir W. J. Sendall was appointed Governor of Cyprus, and Sir J. S. Hay, who had been acting, was appointed and sworn in as Governor of the Colony on April 1st 1892. Major-General Paton, C.M.G., administered the Government from the 18th June to the 14th August, during which period Sir J. S. Hay was absent on leave.

17. The Colonial Secretary, Mr. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G., was absent from the island on duty from the 12th September till the 4th November; Mr. John S. Howell acted.

18. The Auditor-General, Mr. C. A. King-Harman, C.M.G., was absent from the island on leave from the 2nd July to the 18th December; Mr. L. J. Patterson acted.

19. The Comptroller of Customs, Mr. P. L. Dillon, was absent on leave from the 20th July to the 16th November; Mr. Robert Dickson acted.

20. Mr. T. W. McKinstry, Actuary of the Savings Bank, died on the 12th July, and Mr. C. G. Howell was appointed.

Police Establishment.

21. Mr. H. H. Haynes, Inspector of Police, and Assistant Superintendent of the Fire Brigade, died on the 19th of February, and Mr. C. J. Lawrance was appointed in his place.

Judicial Establishment.

22. Mr. H. S. Thorne was appointed Police Magistrate of District "C" *vice* Mr. A. St. J. Watts resigned; Mr. M. J. Berkley was appointed Police Magistrate of District "D" *vice* Mr. W. H. Whitehall, deceased; and Mr. W. W. Gowdey was appointed Police Magistrate of District "E" *vice* Mr. Naboth Greaves, resigned.

Prison Establishment.

23. Mr. Geo. T. White, Governor of Glendairy Prison, was absent from the 4th June to 4th December; Mr. C. J. Lawrance acted from 4th June to 13th July, and Mr. W. H. Bailey from 14th July to 4th December.

Ecclesiastical Establishment.

24. The Rev. G. D. Gittens, Rector of St. Lucy, resigned, and the Rev. W. C. Watson was appointed. The Rev. Jas. Lowry was appointed Vicar of St. Matthews *vice* the Rev. Canon G. M. Clinckett, resigned.

Pensions.

25. Pensions were granted to the Rev. G. D. Gittens, Rector of St. Lucy, 210*l.* 5*s.* per annum; Rev. Canon G. M. Clinckett, Vicar of St. Matthew, 120*l.*; Charles Evelyn, Commissioner of Probates, 62*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*; A. St. J. Watts, Police Magistrate, 133*l.*; Naboth Greaves, Police Magistrate, 204*l.* 6*s.*; J. E. Moore, a schoolmaster, 10*l.*; and Edward Hall, police constable, 5*l.* 6*s.* 5*d.*

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Population.

26. The population as per census of 5th April 1891 was 182,306, divided according to colour thus:—Whites 15,613, coloured and black population 166,693.

27. The number of baptisms during the year was 6,993, or 38·42 per 1,000; of marriages 1,224, and of burials 3,729, or 20·48 per 1,000. Births therefore exceeded deaths by 3,264. The following table gives a comparison with former years:—

Year.	Baptisms.	Marriages.	Burials.	No. of Deaths per 1,000.
1889	7,399	980	6,261	34·7
1890	7,419	1,056	5,000	27·6
1891	7,769	986	6,794	37·3
1892	6,993	1,224	3,729	20·4

28. Owing to local circumstances and to the temperament of the people, the number of baptisms and burials are practically identical with the number of births and deaths. Still-born births do not appear in any part of the above returns.

Savings Bank.

29. The transactions of the savings bank during the year are shown in the annexed comparative table:—

Year.	No. of Depositors on 31st December.	Amount deposited during the Year.	Amount withdrawn during the Year.	Amount in Deposit on 31st December.
		£	£	£
1887 - -	7,763	62,151	51,393	77,946
1888 - -	8,364	77,047	60,146	97,210
1889 - -	9,067	106,741	81,311	125,708
1890 -	9,716	106,229	100,773	134,521
1891 - -	9,936	89,565	94,293	128,284
1892 - -	10,446	86,293	79,322	133,712

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30. The reserve fund at the end of the year was 5,312*l.*, which, added to the amount on deposit, make the total funds of the bank 139,024*l.*, invested as follows:—

—	Nominal.			Actual.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Mortgages on landed property - -	10,859	3	5½	10,859	3	5½
English Consols - - -	17,182	4	7	17,171	19	5
New South Wales Stock - - -	18,149	9	11	18,370	18	9
South Australia Stock - - -	7,000	0	0	7,358	15	0
Victoria Stock - - - -	6,559	18	10	7,061	13	4
Natal Stock - - - - -	1,178	6	3	1,117	15	4
Cape of Good Hope Stock - -	3,690	11	5	3,990	18	9
Ceylon - - - - -	9,575	5	5	9,784	4	9
Canada - - - - -	17,321	5	4	16,515	11	7
Barbados Government Debentures - -	26,000	0	0	26,000	0	0
Loans to parishes - - - -	1,500	0	0	1,567	10	0
Deposit receipts in Colonial Bank - -	17,100	0	0	17,100	0	0
Current account do. - -	1,826	11	11½	1,826	11	11½
Balance in hand - - -	243	1	8½	243	1	8½
Balance in hands of Crown Agents - -	56	12	9	56	12	9
Total - - - - £	138,242	11	7½	139,024	16	9½

Education.

31. *Elementary Schools.*—The number of schools receiving Government aid was 202, one more than in 1891; there were 61 primary, 30 combined, and 111 infant schools. The number of pupils on the books was 20,732, and the average attendance in all the schools 15,240, an increase of 1,616 upon the average attendance for the previous year. The expenditure from the Colonial Treasury for salaries to teachers of elementary schools was 9,019*l.*, an increase of 76*l.* over the expenditure in the preceding year.

32. *Second Grade Schools.*—There were four second grade schools, viz.:—Combermere School, Bridgetown, with 119 pupils; Coleridge School, in the parish of Saint Peter, 42 pupils; Alleyne

BARBADOS. 1892.

School, Saint Andrew, 24 pupils; and Parry School, Saint Lucy, 35 pupils.

33. *First Grade Schools and Colleges.*—Of the first grade schools, three in number, Harrison College, a boys' school, had 139 pupils. The staff consists of a head master and eight assistant masters, all University men; the Lodge School, also a boys' school, with a staff of a head master and two assistant masters, all University men, had 40 pupils; Queen's College, the only public girls' school in the island, conducted by a head mistress and six assistant mistresses and a music master, had 148 pupils. Codrington College, affiliated to Durham University, had 21 students.

Reformatory and Industrial School.

34. The number of boys at this school on the 1st of January was 119; 37 were received during the year and 40 discharged, leaving the number at the close of the year to be 116.

35. The total cost of maintenance per boy, excluding the salaries of the staff, but including provision, clothing, furniture, tools, and implements, hospital and medicine, &c., was 6*l.* 12*s.* 3½*d.* per annum, or 1*l.* 1*s.* 3¼*d.* per boy per annum more than in the previous year.

Ecclesiastical.

36. There are 11 parish churches, 33 chapels and one chapel school, making a total of 45 places of worship of the denomination of the Church of England, with accommodation varying for from 2,000 persons at the St. Michael's Cathedral to 140 at St. Catherine's in St. John's parish. The total average attendance was 13,957 in the morning and 12,710 in the evening.

37. The places of worship of other denominations were 23 in number; average attendance in the morning 6,780, in the evening 7,960. Of these, 18 were Wesleyan chapels, 4 Moravians, and one Roman Catholic.

38. The endowment of the Church of England from the general revenue is 10,353*l.*, and allowances are made to other denominations as follows:—

	£
Wesleyans - - - - -	700
Moravians - - - - -	400
Roman Catholics - - - - -	50

making the total endowment of the Church 11,503*l.*

Imports and Exports.

39. The following table shows the values of imports and exports in 1892, as compared with those of the previous five years :—

Year.	Imports.	Increase.	Decrease.	Exports.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1887 - - -	983,187	119,696	—	1,063,397	323,486	—
1888 - - -	1,058,491	75,304	—	1,074,583	11,186	—
1889 - - -	1,211,370	152,879	—	1,029,588	—	44,995
1890 - - -	1,193,723	—	17,647	1,204,390	174,801	—
1891 - - -	1,067,617	—	126,106	814,254	—	390,136
1892 - - -	1,081,571	13,954	—	926,572	12,318	—

40. The direction of trade was as follows :—

Imports.

Country.	1892.	1891.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	469,317	432,637
British Colonies - - -	195,855	207,185
United States of America - -	337,953	377,948
Other Foreign Countries - -	78,446	49,847

Exports.

Country.	1892.	1891.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	119,168	74,605
British Colonies - - -	273,894	261,765
United States America - - -	500,919	445,175
Other Foreign Countries - -	34,501	32,709

41. The following comparative tables show the quantities and values of the principal articles imported into and exported from the Colony in the years 1891 and 1892.

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Quantities and Values of Principal Articles imported in the years 1891–1892.

Barbados. Imports.		1891.	1892.
Principal Articles.			
Bread, navy, pilot and crackers	Lbs.	4,360,721	4,075,377
	£	19,623	18,339
Butter - - -	Lbs.	708,633	839,522
	£	26,573	30,012
Coal, mixed preparations thereof and coke - -	Tons	18,028	23,487
	£	18,028	23,487
Corn and grain - -	Bushels	326,233	276,239
	£	64,334	50,996
Fish, dried - -	Quintals	80,676	77,113
	£	48,405	46,276
Flour, wheat, or rye -	Barrels	71,676	74,271
	£	89,595	92,838
Indian corn meal - -	Barrels	46,822	37,507
	£	35,116	28,130
Linens and cottons -	£	130,544	128,690
Lumber - - -	Feet	9,957,736	8,258,432
	£	29,873	24,539
Manure - - -	Tons	13,287	12,913
	£	88,118	114,148
Meat, salted - -	Lbs.	2,777,976	1,087,406
	£	34,725	13,592
Rice - - -	Lbs.	20,406,013	16,901,901
	£	85,025	70,424
Oil, kerosine -	Gallons	360,592	365,230
	£	11,268	11,413
Staves and shooks - -	Pcs.	2,736,163	2,399,641
	£	24,625	21,596
Spirits - - -	Gallons	79,648	63,619
	£	16,376	14,647
Tobacco - - -	Lbs.	162,904	191,160
	£	8,396	8,498
Total value of Imports	£	1,067,617	1,081,572

Quantities and Value of Principal Articles exported in the ye
1891–1892.

Barbados. Exports.		1891.	1892.
Principal Articles.			
Fish, dried - - -	Quintals	46,654	37,479
	£	27,992	22,487
Flour, wheat, or rye -	Barrels	22,437	18,151
	£	28,046	22,688
Molasses - - -	Puncheons	32,318	43,356
	£	100,994	135,487
Meat, salted - -	Lbs.	643,518	550,787
	£	8,044	6,885
Rice - - -	Lbs.	5,680,348	9,596,018
	£	28,668	39,983
Rum - - -	Gallons	3,198	677
	£	239	50
Sugar, Raw - -	Hhds.	48,186	56,619
	£	481,860	566,190
Total value of principal and other articles exported -	£	814,254	926,572

Shipping.

42. The total number of vessels entered and cleared in 1892 was 2,451, with a tonnage of 1,247,259 tons; of these 692, with a tonnage of 968,629 tons, were steam vessels; and 1,759, with a tonnage of 278,630 tons, were sailing vessels.

43. The following tables show the countries from and to which vessels entered and cleared in 1892 as compared with 1891, distinguishing sailing from steam vessels:—

Entered.

Countries from whence.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.
Great Britain - -	36	32	130	133	14,796	10,856	207,974	200,234
United States America	61	96	50	42	25,365	29,460	47,070	40,987
British North America	88	106	10	9	12,743	15,354	9,726	10,309
British West Indies and Guiana - -	508	578	137	116	29,063	31,400	180,834	161,176
Foreign West Indies -	49	80	1	2	3,707	5,392	642	3,216
Brazil - - - -	65	53	10	3	28,778	25,612	11,502	4,968
Others - - - -	74	79	9	9	27,195	28,008	21,667	21,481
Total - - -	881	1,024	347	314	141,647	146,082	485,417	442,371

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Cleared.

Countries to which.	Number.				Tonnage.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.	1892.	1891.
Great Britain - -	11	7	40	36	4,708	4,778	76,850	68,727
United States - -	91	117	27	30	44,317	51,286	27,349	32,735
British North America	99	100	12	6	21,658	19,751	13,985	6,520
British West Indies and Guiana - -	551	627	255	228	45,681	44,733	356,270	321,692
Foreign West Indies -	74	109	9	8	12,924	16,503	7,955	7,152
Other countries - -	52	65	2	6	7,695	10,430	803	5,545
Total - - -	878	1,025	345	314	136,983	147,481	483,212	442,371

Criminal Statistics.

44. The total number of offences reported to the police or the magistrates during 1892 was 4,788, or 291 less than in 1891. The average for the five years 1883–1887 inclusive is 4,005; that for the five years 1888–1892 inclusive is 4,533.

Apprehensions and Summonses.

45. The number of persons apprehended by the police or summoned before the magistrates in 1892 was 12,229, or 927 more than in 1891; of this number 2,959, or 24·19 per cent. of the whole number, were acquitted. The total number of convictions was 9,193, viz., 98 in the superior courts, and 9,095 summary convictions. The convictions in the superior courts were thus 4 less, and the summary convictions 902 more, than in 1891.

46. The number of offences against the person in 1892 was 883, as against 629 in 1891. This is more than the five years' average, which is 686, and exceeds the number reported in any of the five years from which an average has been obtained, *i.e*, 1888–1892.

47. The number of cases of prædial larceny reported was 1,013; this is below the five years' average, which is 1,049, and is 531 less than the corresponding number for 1891.

48. The number of offences against property other than prædial larceny was 1,324, or 265 less than the corresponding number in 1891. It is, however, a little more than the five years' average of

1,306, and is greater than the corresponding number for any of the five years save 1891.

49. Other offences numbered 1,568, being 251 in excess of the number in 1891.

Gaols and Prisoners.

50. The number of male adult persons committed in 1892 was 1,855, being 186 less than in 1891; the number of male juveniles was 62, being 16 less than in the previous year.

51. The number of female adults was 1,726, being 30 less than in 1891; 16 female juveniles were committed, being 21 less than during the previous year.

52. Thirteen prisoners were released on ticket of leave, earned under the mark system, and were paid gratuities. One convict was pardoned by the governor on the medical officer's recommendation. One male prisoner was hanged.

53. The discipline maintained among the male prisoners was good during the year, only four prisoners received corporal punishment; 157 persons were punished for malingering, which was as usual, the chief offence; cases of persistent malingering, however, are now rare.

54. In previous years great difficulty was found in maintaining discipline among the female prisoners, owing to the impossibility of separating notorious bad characters, but in 1892 the extension to the female prison was completed, thus enabling the separate system to be introduced, and making it possible to enforce the punishments awarded by the governor of the prison. The general behaviour of the prisoners was good.

55. The profit realised by the cooperage was 67*l.* 2*s.* 3*d.* This is an increase as compared with the amounts realised in 1891 and 1890, which were 35*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* and 54*l.* 4*s.* 10*d.* respectively, but when compared with the profit in 1889, which was 425*l.* 15*s.* 6*d.*, makes but a very low figure.

56. Seventy-two mattresses were made for the General Hospital out of cocoanut fibre, which is supplied by the hospital authorities; no charge is made for the labour.

57. The sanitary condition of the prison was good during the year. Thirty-three male prisoners were treated in the prison hospital, 5 of whom died; 23 female prisoners were also treated in hospital, only one of whom died. The prevailing disease was dysentery.

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Agriculture.

58. The following table shows the amount of sugar, molasses, and rum, which are the three principal products of the island, exported in 1892, as compared with the three previous years:—

Year.	Sugar.		Molasses.		Rum.	
	Hogsheads.	Value.	Puncheons.	Value.	Gallons.	Value.
		£		£		£
1889 -	65,268	667,330	44,818	140,056	3,422	256
1890 -	85,261	869,575	51,904	162,200	95	7
1891 -	50,547	517,275	32,318	100,993	641	48
1892 -	59,349	605,640	42,968	134,275	612	47

Health.

59. The health of the island throughout the year was very satisfactory; the latter half was remarkably healthy, possibly due to the energetic sanitary measures undertaken by almost all the Sanitary Boards in view of the possibility of a cholera epidemic being introduced, such as was at the time raging in many parts of Europe. Dysentery and typhoid fever were the diseases most prevalent.

C. C. Knollys,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Barbados,
13th June 1893.

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No. 113.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1893.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 83.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1894.

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1894.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
79	Malta - - - - - -	1892
80	Gambia - - - - - -	"
81	Straits Settlements - - - - -	"
82	Grenada - - - - - -	"
83	Barbados - - - - - -	"
84	St. Vincent - - - - - -	"
85	Hong Kong - - - - -	"
86	St. Lucia - - - - - -	"
87	Falkland Islands - - - - -	"
88	Gold Coast - - - - - -	"
89	Basutoland - - - - - -	1892-93
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91	Zululand - - - - - -	"
92	Mauritius - - - - - -	"
93	Labuan - - - - - -	"
94	British Honduras - - - - -	"
95	Lagos - - - - - -	"
96	Sierra Leone - - - - -	"
97	Fiji - - - - - -	"
98	Rodrigues - - - - - -	"
99	St. Helena - - - - - -	"
100	British Bechuanaland - - - -	1892-93
101	British Guiana - - - - -	"
102	Newfoundland - - - - -	1892
103	Jamaica - - - - - -	1892-93
104	Victoria - - - - -	1892
105	Bermuda - - - - - -	1893
106	Gambia - - - - - -	"
107	Hong Kong - - - - -	"
108	St. Vincent - - - - - -	"
109	Gibraltar - - - - - -	"
110	Bahamas - - - - - -	"
111	Turks and Caicos Islands - - - -	"
112	Leeward Islands - - - - -	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast - -	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand - - -	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone - -	Geology and Botany.

No. 113.

BARBADOS 1893.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1892, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 83.)

Sir J. S. HAY to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House,
June 15, 1894.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1893, and enclose the Report thereon, which has been furnished to me by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. S. HAY.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Barbados,
June 15, 1894.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose the Blue Book Report for the year 1893, which has been very carefully prepared by Mr. W. H. Bailey, the Chief Clerk and late Acting Auditor-General, as I was not here during the year with which it deals.

I have &c.
(Signed) G. R. LE HUNTE.
Colonial Secretary

His Excellency Sir J. S. Hay, K.C.M.G.,
Governor.

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BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1893.

Taxes and Duties.

1. There is no change to note in the Schedule of Taxes and Duties leviable in the Colony.

Finance.

	£	s.	d.
2. The balance on 1st January 1893 was -	9,809	7	9
The receipts during the year were -	161,730	7	11½
Total - -	171,539	15	8½
The expenditure for 1893 was - -	164,633	6	4½
Leaving a balance on 31st December 1893 of - - - -	£6,906	9	4

3. The Revenue for the year exceeded the estimates by 1,503*l.*; Customs and Excise producing more than was anticipated.

4. The Expenditure was less than the Estimate by 999*l.* 5*s.* 4½*d.*

5. The Revenue for the year, compared with that for 1892, shows on the whole a decrease of 933*l.* 9*s.* 4½*d.*, but when the causes which occasioned decreases to be shown against certain items of revenue are taken into account, there would be an increase in the ordinary Revenue of the year compared with 1892 of 3,288*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.*

6. The expenditure was 34,496*l.* 11*s.* 10*d.* less than that in 1892. This decrease is owing to the fact that the heavy payments made from the General Revenue in 1892 on account of the New Lunatic Asylum and the cost of the Improvement in Bay Street, ceased in this year, and the amount of 164,633*l.* 6*s.* 4½*d.* expended fairly represents the ordinary expenditure.

7. The following tables give the Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the past four years.

Revenue.

Year.	Customs.	Excise.	Other Receipts.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1893 - -	94,480	32,553	34,697	161,730
1892 - -	92,340	28,919	41,404	162,663
1891 - -	99,780	25,298	38,827	163,905
*1890 - -	116,415	30,517	39,247	186,179

* In this year was reaped the largest crop of sugar the Island has ever made.

Expenditure.

Year.	Salaries.	Other Expenses.	Total.
	£	£	£
1893 - -	72,978	91,655	164,633
1892	73,253	125,876	199,129
1891 - -	*78,249	98,551	176,800
1890 - -	68,960	112,675	181,635

* Salaries for 13 months.

8. The assets of the Colony at the end of the year amounted to 31,523*l.* 16*s.* 6*d.*, which sum includes the nominal value of the amount in the Sinking Fund under the Public Works Loan Act, 1881.

Public Debt.

9. There was no increase to the Public Debt during the year, which still remains at 30,100*l.* The amount (nominal) to the credit of the Sinking Fund on 30th September 1893 was 11,129*l.* 13*s.* 2*d.*

Local Revenues.

10. The total Parochial revenue raised by the several vestries and highways Commissioners during the year ended 24th March 1893 was 59,719*l.* This includes the annual grant from the Public Treasury of 5,450*l.*, in aid of the upkeep of highways. The Parochial expenditure amounted to 56,156*l.*, of which 41,295*l.* was for Poor Relief, and the upkeep of churches, chapels and repairs to schools, and 14,861*l.* on highways.

Military Expenditure.

11. The return furnished by the Military Authorities shows that the total expenditure incurred by the Imperial Government in this Colony in 1893 amounted to 49,672*l.*

Public Works.

12. During the year, a Recreation Room for the Police was erected within the Central Police Station at a cost of 350*l.* This sum was charged to the Police Reserve Fund and did not come out of the General Revenue. Repairs were begun in the latter part of the year to the Wharf Walls, and the work,

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which was estimated to cost 1,250*l.* was proceeded with on the lines proposed in the scheme for Harbour Improvements. This Scheme, has however, at the time of writing this Report, been postponed till 30th June 1895.

Repairs were made to the various Government Buildings at a cost of 2,123*l.*

Legislation.

13. The session of 1893–94 was opened on the 11th July. During the year 37 Acts were passed and assented to by the Governor. This number includes 25 which belonged to the previous Session, which expired on the 25th April.

The following are the titles of the more important of the Acts:

An Act to provide for the Registration of Judgments.
An Act to raise the sum of 200,000*l.* by the issue of Inscribed Stock (for the Harbour Extension).
The Bills of Exchange Act, 1893.
The Quarantine Act, 1893.
The Electric Lighting Act, 1893.
The Barbados Railway's (Tramways) Act, 1893.
An Act to amend "The Colonial Secretary's Office Act, 1890," and "The Audit Office Act, 1890."
And two Acts for further promoting the revision of the Statute Law.

Political Franchise.

14. No change has taken place in the qualification of voters, which remain the same as set forth in "The Representation of the People Act, 1891." The election of Members for the House of Assembly took place on the 3rd July in all the parishes except that of St. Joseph, in which there was a contest, and it was decided on the 10th July. The total number of registered electors is 2,031.

Councils and Assemblies.

15. The Executive Council and the Legislative Council consisted of the same members as in 1892.

16. The Honourable J. W. Perris, M.L.C., resigned his seat on the Executive Committee from failing health, having served as a Member since the formation of the body in 1881. He was succeeded by the Honourable Oswald Jones, M.L.C.; Dr. Phillips, M.C.P., also resigned his seat at the same Board, and Mr. Thomas Jones, M.C.P., was appointed in his place.

17. *House of Assembly.*—Mr. J. C. Lynch was elected a Member for the City of Bridgetown in the place of Mr. B. Inniss, who declined re-election. Mr. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G. (Colonial

Secretary) was elected for St. Joseph *vice* Mr. C. A. King-Harman, C.M.G. (Auditor-General), who had left the Island, and the seat for the parish of St. Peter, formerly held by Mr. Knollys, was filled by the election of Mr. C. P. Clarke, Barrister-at-Law.

Civil Establishment.

18. The Governor, Sir J. S. Hay, K.C.M.G., was absent on leave from the 21st October, and Major-General George Paton, C.M.G., administered the Government.

19. The Auditor-General, Mr. C. A. King-Harman, C.M.G., left the Island on the 1st July to assume the Colonial Secretaryship of Mauritius, and Mr. W. H. Bailey, Chief Clerk of the Colonial Secretary's Office, was appointed to act in the Office until an appointment was made. This Office was to have been amalgamated with that of the Colonial Secretary, but it was not considered advisable to carry the experiment into effect, and an Act was passed to restore the office.

20. Mr. J. H. Brady, M.I.C.E., Superintendent of Public Works, was absent on leave for a fortnight, and his duties were performed by Mr. P. N. H. Jones, M.I.C.E.

21. The Comptroller of Customs, Mr. P. L. Dillon, was absent on leave from 20th May to 19th November, and Mr. Robert Dickson, Landing Surveyor, performed the duties of Comptroller; and Mr. W. Everard, Senior Landing Waiter, performed those of Landing Surveyor.

Judicial Establishment.

22. Mr. H. J. Lee-Evans, Judge of the Bridgeton Petty Debt Court, died on 18th August. Mr. E. C. Jackman, Barrister-at-Law, who had been acting for Mr. Evans, continued to perform the duties until the arrival of Mr. S. J. Fraser, Police Magistrate of Tobago, who had been appointed to the office.

Police Establishment.

23. Colonel John Elliott, C.B., C.M.G., Inspector-General of Police, &c., was absent on leave from 8th April to 4th December, and the duties of his office were discharged by Mr. C. J. Lawrence, Inspector of Police.

Ecclesiastical Establishment.

24. His Lordship the Bishop was on leave from the Island from 1st July. The Venerable G. M. D. Frederick, Archdeacon and Rector of St. Peter's, returned from leave of absence on 5th June,

The Rev. Canon E. Lisle Smith also returned from leave of absence on the 22nd April. Some of the vicars were also absent on leave.

25. The Rev. W. D. Arrindell, Rector of St. James, resigned on a pension, and the Rev. W. C. Watson, Rector of St. Lucy, was transferred to the vacancy, his place being filled by the Rev. H. Hutson, of Grenada.

Pensions.

26. The following are the principal officials who retired on pensions during the year. Dr. R. B. Walcott, Coroner, &c. District "F" 52*l.* 10*s.* 0*d.* (since dead); Rev. W. D Arrindell, Rector of St. James, 210*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.*; Joseph Jackman, Weigher and Gauger, 245*l.* 10*s.* 5*d.*; L. J. Patterson, Chief Clerk, Audit Office, 125*l.* 0*s.* 0*d.*

27. Several pensioners died during the year, nearly all of whom retired in the previous year, viz.: Rev. G. D. Gittens, pension of 210*l.* 5*s.* 0*d.*; Rev. Canon G. M. Clinkett, 120*l.*; Mr. Charles Evelyn, 62*l.* 16*s.* 4.; Naboth Greaves, 240*l.*, and Mr. J. G. Grant, C.M.G., 711*l.* 13*s.* 9*d.*, who had been in receipt of his pension since 1882.

Foreign Consuls.

28. During the year Mr. George T. Tate succeeded Dr. E. A. Dimmick as Consul for the United States of America, and Mr. S. H. McCormick was appointed Consul for the United States of Brazil.

Population.

29. The population of the Island may now be set set down at 185,000.

30. The Baptisms were 7,896, Marriages 1,289, and Burials 4,956 during the year, showing an increase of births over deaths of very little less than 3,000. The number of Baptisms and Marriages are greater than in any year since 1889, while the Burials, with the exception of 1892, are fewer than in any year since 1889. The number of baptisms indicates an alarming ratio of over one-and-a-half per cent. increase in the population when the number of burials is also taken into account, and it is hoped that the Emigration Commission now sitting may find some solution of the problem of how to deal with the large surplus, which is growing larger and larger each year.

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31. The following Table exhibits the number of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials from 1889.

Year.	Baptisms.	Marriages.	Burials.	No. of Deaths per 1,000.	No. of Births per 1,000.
1889 - -	7,399	980	6,261	34·7	42·2
1890 - -	7,419	1,056	5,000	27·6	41·6
1891 - -	7,769	986	6,794	37·3	42·6
1892 - -	6,993	1,224	3,729	20·4	38·2
1893 - -	7,896	1,289	4,656	26·7	42·6

Savings Bank.

32. The Savings Bank continues to grow in the favour of the labouring classes. The number of depositors on the 30th September 1893 was 10,944, being about six per cent. of the population. The following table gives a comparison between 1892 and 1893.

—	1st October, 1892 to 30th September 1893.	1st October 1891 to 30th September 1892.
Number of Depositors - - -	10,944	10,420
Percentage of Population - -	6	5·71
Amount of Deposits - - -	£101,042	£80,000
Amount withdrawn - - -	£82,197	£80,013
Amount to credit of Depositors - -	£152,924	£130,418

33. The Surplus Fund at the end of the year was 5,707*l.* 13*s.* 3½*d.*, which, added to the amount due to depositors, makes the Total Funds of the Bank amount to 156,267*l.* 3*s.* 9½*d.*, distributed as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Mortgages on landed property - -	10,859	3	5½
English Consols - - -	17,171	19	5
Colonial Stock - - -	76,921	1	11
Barbados Government Debentures -	26,000	0	0
Loans to Parishes - - -	1,288	0	0
Deposit receipts in Colonial Bank -	14,500	0	0
On Current Account in Colonial Bank -	2,052	19	0
Balance in hand - - -	474	0	0
Remitted to Crown Agents for investment	7,000	0	0
	£156,267	3	9½

Ecclesiastical.

34. There are 11 parish Churches, 33 chapels, and one Chapel School, making 45 places of worship belonging to the Church of England. There is accommodation in the Cathedral for 2,000 persons and in some other Churches for 1,000, varying to 140 in some of the smaller churches. The total average attendance was about the same as last year–viz. 13,957 at the morning, and 12,710 at the evening services.

35. There are 23 places of worship belonging to other churches, one to the Roman Catholics, four to the Moravians, and 18 to the Wesleyans. The principal Wesleyan Church has accommodation for 1,500 persons. The average attendance was about the same as last year.

35A. The cost of the establishment of the Church of England is 10,353*l.* per annum from the General Revenue, and grants are made from the Treasury to the other denominations as follows: The Roman Catholics, 50*l.* the Moravians, 400*l.* per annum, and the Wesleyans, 700*l.* per annum.

Education.

36. *Elementary Schools.*—The number of schools receiving Government aid at the end of the year was 201, one less than in 1892, consisting of 58 Primary, 34 Combined, and 107 Infant Schools. The total average attendance in all the schools was 16,606, an increase of 1,366 upon the average attendance for the previous year. The expenditure was 10,100*l.* 13*s.* 11½*d.* on salaries, being 1,081*l.* 9*s.* 10*d.* greater than in 1892. This was caused by the increased average attendance during the year.

37. *Second Grade Schools.*—There are four second grade schools, all for boys. At the close of the year the Combermere School had 113 pupils, the Coleridge School, 42 pupils, the Parry School, 27 pupils, and the Alleyne School, 19 pupils. During the year an Act was passed for the establishment of a second grade school for girls in Speights Town, in the Parish of St. Peter. The school is to be called the "Alexandra School." It has not yet been opened.

38. *First Grade Schools and Colleges.*—There are three First Grade Schools, viz., Harrison College, and the Lodge School, for boys, and Queens College for girls. Harrison College, in Bridgetown, is the principal school of the Island, having a staff of a Head Master and eight Assistant Masters, all of whom are University Graduates. There were 148 pupils at the close of the year. The Lodge School in the Parish of St. John has a Head Master and two Assistant Masters, all University men. The Number of pupils at the end of the year was 48. The Queen's College for girls is in Bridgetown and has a Head Mistress and seven Assistant Mistresses, a Music Master and a Chemistry Lecturer; at the close of 1893 there were 150 pupils under tuition.

Codrington College, in St. John's parish, is presided over by a Principal appointed by the S. P. G. Society. There is a Professor of Classics, a Medical Lecturer and a Chaplain. The College is affiliated to Durham University and had 20 students at the end of the year.

Reformatory and Industrial School.

39. There were 30 boys received during the year and 27 discharged, leaving 119 remaining at the end of the year. There were no deaths during the year and the health of the boys was excellent. The mark system, which was introduced some years ago, continues to work well, there being 95 boys, out of 113, with good conduct badges. Of 90 boys examined by the Chaplain, 79 passed in reading, 86 in writing and spelling, and 78 in arithmitic. The cost for maintenance per boy per annum was 5*l.* 15*s.* 8*d.*, being 16*s.* 7¼*d.* per boy per annum less than in 1892.

Imports and Exports.

40. The following tables give the value and direction of Imports and Exports in 1892 and 1893.

Imports.

From.	1892.	1893.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	469,317	583,086
British North America - -	88,524	119,222
Other British Colonies - - -	107,330	135,182
United States of America - -	377,953	501,620
Other Foreign Countries - -	38,446	33,426
Totals - - - -	1,081,570	1,372,536

Exports.

To.	1892.	1893.
	£	£
United Kingdom - - -	119,168	141,942
British North America - - -	123,307	127,714
Other British Colonies - - -	150,587	191,975
United States of America - -	500,919	755,464
Other Foreign Countries - -	32,590	25,937
Totals - - - -	926,571	1,243,082

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41. The following table shows a comparison between certain classes of Imports from Great Britain and the United States of America, and British North America.

Classes.	British North America.	Great Britain.	United States of America.	Total Imports.
	£	£	£	£
1. Live Animals, Food and Drink, and Narcotics - -	82,625	103,524	389,387	692,058
2. Raw materials:—	—	—	—	—
(*a.*) Textile - - -	993	45	4,886	6,106
(*b.*) Metal - - -	—	495	—	897
(*c.*) Other - - -	29,230	53,060	53,080	151,308
3. Manufactured Articles:—	—	—	—	—
(*a.*) Textile - - -	73	183,849	1.989	187,929
(*b.*) Metal - - -	393	62,723	9,122	74,457
(*c.*) Other - - -	5,908	175,969	42,271	243,165
4. Coin and bullion - -	—	3,421	885	16,616
Totals - - -	119,222	583,086	501,620	1,372,536

42. The following table gives the quantities and values of certain of the principal Imports in the years 1892 and 1893.

Barbados. Imports.		1892.	1893.
Beef, salted or pickled -	Lbs.	1,087,406	1,182,099
	£	13,593	19,209
Bread, pilot, navy and crackers	Lbs.	4,075,377	4,747,724
	£	18,309	28,506
Butter - - -	Lbs.	429,335	340,068
	£	21,466	18,364
Coal - - -	Tons	23,487	22,306
	£	23,487	36,694
Corn or Maize, unground -	Lbs	5,617,810	6,266,434
	£	16,853	25,849
Corn meal - - -	Barrels	37,507	37,278
	£	28,130	37,045
Cotton manufacture - -	£	125,516	153,303
Fish, dried, salted or smoked -	Quintals	77,113	84,427
	£	46,267	65,853
Flour, wheat, or rye -	Barrels	74,271	69,660
	£	92,838	115,374

Barbados. Imports.		1892.	1893.
Grain, unenumerated	Lbs	3,734,262	4,504,587
	£	11,203	18,581
„ oats	Lbs	6,117,338	6,568,563
	£	22,940	33,869
Linen manufactures	£	3,164	1,954
Liquors, Brandy, Whiskey, &c	Gallons.	19,987	17,558
	£	6,496	6,848
Gin	Gallons.	15,132	17,465
	£	2,270	3,143
Wines	Gallons	27,188	22,458
	£	5,692	6,096
Malt in Wood	Hhds.	2,460	2,388
	£	7,383	8,596
Malt in bottle	Doz.	9,910	7,985
	£	2,973	2,874
Lumber, white pine, pitch pine, &c.	Feet	8,258,432	10,032,417
	£	24,539	37,758
Manures	Tons	12,913	12,183
	£	114,148	104,022
Petroleum	Gallons	365,230	431,841
	£	11,413	17,206
Pork, salted or pickled	Lbs.	2,187,422	1,667,766
	£	27,343	27,101
Rice	Lbs.	16,901,901	15,266,705
	£	70,424	87,465
Staves and shooks	Pcs.	2,399,641	3,457,075
	£	21,596	42,781
Tobacco manufactured	Lbs	116,674	123,336
	£	4,861	5,344
„ Leaf	Lbs	70,547	81,743
	£	1,176	1,417
Woollen Manufactures	£	12,124	15,738
Total value	£	1,081,572	1,372,536

43. The value of the total Exports in 1893 was put down at 1,243,082*l.* of which the exportations to the United States of America alone are valued at 754,882*l.*, the produce of the Colony. The produce exported to Great Britain and British North America was almost of equal value, the figures being 127,247*l.* and 127,437*l.* respectively.

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44. The following tables give the quantities and values of some of the principal exports in 1892–1893.

Articles.		1892.	1893.
Produce of Barbados.			
Arrowroot	Lbs	3,370	1,000
	£	28	10
Bricks	No.	38,750	27,750
	£	116	83
Rum	Gallons	602	6,029
	£	47	452
Molasses	Puncheons	42,968	43,374
	£	134,275	162,662
Sugar, Dry	Hhds.	2,630	3,640
	£	39,450	61,880
Muscovado	Lbs.	56,619	63,517
	£	566,190	793,962
Tamarinds	Brls.	946	1,097
	£	1,182	1,371
Produce of other places.	£	174,649	212,569
Total Values.	£	926,573	1,243,082

Shipping.

45. The number of vessels entered and cleared in 1893 was 2,458, with a total aggregate tonnage of 1,224,067 tons; 905 sailing vessels entered with a tonnage of 137,615, and 905 sailing vessels cleared with 136,663 tons. 324 steam vessels entered with 474,704 tons, and 324 steam vessels cleared with 475,085 tons.

46. The following tables show some of the countries from which vessels arrived and to which they departed in 1893.

Entered.

1893. From	Sailing.		Steam.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Great Britain	31	12,376	122	204,427
United States	70	31,530	36	43,257
British North America	109	16,935	14	15,446
British West Indies and British Guiana	517	29,029	127	170,863
Foreign West Indies	64	4,548	—	—
Brazil	50	20,650	12	12,808
Other places	64	22,547	13	27,903
Totals	905	137,615	324	474,704

Cleared.

1893. For	Sailing.		Steam.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Great Britain - - - -	5	2,174	40	76,693
United States - - - -	105	44,625	32	35,813
British North America - - -	85	16,313	12	14,112
British West Indies and British Guiana	582	43,654	235	341,877
Foreign West Indies - - -	84	21,251	4	5,322
Brazil - - - - -	1	293	1	1,268
Other places - - - -	43	8,350	—	—
Totals - - -	905	136,663	324	475,085

47. The nationality of the vessels which entered and cleared in 1893 is shown in the following table.

Nationality.	Entered.				Cleared.			
	Sailing.		Steam.		Sailing.		Steam.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British - - -	754	76.646	323	474,208	755	75,304	323	474,589
American - -	71	33.246	—	—	72	35,502	—	—
Norwegian - -	30	16,568	—	—	26	13,767	—	—
Swedish - -	5	1,980	—	—	6	2,212	—	—
Dutch - - -	20	1,375	—	—	19	1,270	—	—
Argentine - -	2	1,258	—	—	2	1,258	—	—
Italian - - -	4	2,320	—	—	5	2,904	—	—
French - - -	8	1,995	—	—	8	1,995	—	—
Venezuelan - -	6	511	—	—	6	511	—	—
Danish - - -	2	837	1	496	3	1,061	1	496
German - -	3	879	—	—	3	879	—	—
Total - - -	905	137.615	324	474,704	905	136,663	324	475,085

Gaols and Prisoners.

48. *Criminal Statistics.*—The number of offences reported to the police or to the magistrates was 10,421. This number is so largely in excess of the corresponding numbers in previous years (viz.: 4,788 in 1892; 5,079 in 1891 and 4,213 in 1890), that the

increase must be attributed to the incorrectness of the returns under this head in previous years. It had been brought to the notice of the magistrates that there must be some error in the manner of filling in this return and no doubt the great increase now seen is caused by the correction of the error, to which attention had been called. The number of persons apprehended or summoned before the magistrate in 1893 was 12,069, being 160 less than in 1892. Summary convictions also show a decrease compared with 1892, the figures being 8,836 and 9,193 respectively. The convictions in the Superior Courts, 76, were fewer than in any year since 1890.

Prisoners.—The number of adult males committed to prison was 1,681, being 174 less than the number in 1892. The number of male juveniles was 43, 19 less than in 1892.

49. The number of adult females committed to prison was 1,794, 68 more than in 1892. There were 18 juvenile females, as against 16 in 1892.

50. Eleven male prisoners were released on ticket of leave, earned under the mark system.

51. The discipline of the prison was maintained, and the general behaviour, both of male and female prisoners, was good. The offence of malingering is on the decrease.

52. The usual industries were carried on in the prison so as to furnish work for certain of the prisoners, and outside, the quarrying of stone and the building of a boundary wall provided the means of enforcing hard labour on others, who had passed the usual stages of labour inside the prison.

53. The sanitary condition of the prison was good, the prevailing diseases were typhoid fever and dysentery. On the male side there were four deaths in the latter part of the year. None on the female side.

Hospitals and Lunatic Asylum.

54. *General Hospital.*—The daily average number of patients in hospital for 1893, is 215. The number of patients remaining on 1st. January was 207 and the number admitted during the year, 2,977, making a total under the Ward Department of 3,184, as against 3,183 in 1892. There were 201 deaths, the rate of mortality being 6·2 per cent., as compared with 7·2 per cent. in 1892. The greatest number of the deaths, as in 1892, occurred from chronic phthisis, of which there were 18, the next highest being typhoid fever, 17. Of the deaths, 52 occurred within 48 hours of admission, and if these are excluded the percentage would be reduced to 4·7.

55. *Lunatic Asylum.*—The new lunatic asylum was occupied about the middle of the year, the daily average for the year being

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271. The daily average in 1892 was 246. The number of deaths in 1893 was 37, and the number discharged cured, 53. It is satisfactory to note that restraint was not resorted to during the year and that only one male, and nine female, patients were secluded under lock and key.

Meteorological.

56. The highest temperature at Dodds Botanical Station, 210 feet above sea level, was 89° in September, and the lowest, 66·2°, in March. The number of wet days was 193, and the rainfall for the year 58·10 inches. March was the driest month, only seven wet days; and in August the most rain fell, 11·32 inches in 17 wet days, although the number of wet days was greater in some of the months, viz.: 21 in September, 21 in October and 21 in December. In October the greatest change in barometric pressure occurred, the mean pressure in September being 29·903, and in October 29·809. There was an unusual number of thunderstorms in September and October and several persons and animals were struck by lightning, causing death in many instances.

Public Health.

57. The health of the Island was good throughout the year.

G. R. LE HUNTE.
Barbados, June 15, 1894. Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 140.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1894.

(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 113.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
15 *August* 1895.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
107	Hong Kong	1893
108	St. Vincent	"
109	Gibraltar	"
110	Bahamas	"
111	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
112	Leeward Islands	"
113	Barbados	"
114	Malta	"
115	Zululand	"
116	British Honduras	"
117	Trinidad and Tobago	"
118	Falkland Islands	"
119	Rodrigues	"
120	Mauritius	"
121	Straits Settlements	"
122	Labuan	"
123	Basutoland	1893–94
124	St. Lucia	1893
125	St. Helena	"
126	Ceylon	"
127	Fiji	"
128	Grenada	"
129	Sierra Leone	"
130	British Bechuanaland	1893–94
131	British New Guinea	1892–3 & 1893–4
132	Lagos	1893
133	British Guiana	1893–94
134	Jamaica	"
135	Newfoundland	1893
136	Gold Coast	"
137	Zululand	1894
138	Bermuda	"
139	Bahamas	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.

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(For Report for 1893, *see* Colonial Report [Annual] No. 113.)

Sir J. S. HAY to the MARQUESS OF RIPON.

Government House,
May 31, 1895.

MY LORD MARQUESS,

I HAVE the honour to forward by this mail copies of the Blue Book of Barbados for the year 1894, together with a Report thereon by the Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
J. S. HAY.

BLUE BOOK REPORT, 1894.

Taxation.

1. The taxation of the Island may be divided under two heads, the Indirect Taxation, which is collected by the general revenue for general purposes, and the Parochial Taxation which is collected by the vestries for local expenditure. The former is raised by the customs and trade taxes, and the latter by assessments on acreage and rental valuations of properties.

In some parishes there is a tax on traders, assessed on the annual business profits.

2. The average acreage tax for parochial revenue varies from 2*s.* 8*d.* to 4*s.* 7*d.* in the £ in the several parishes, and the average amounts to 3*s.* 6*d.* in the £.

3. The rental assessments vary from 4½*d.* to 1*s.* 7*d.* and the average rate is 11*d.* in the £.

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When the owner as well as the occupier pays tax on leasehold property the tax paid by the former averages 10*d.* in the £.

4. There is a highway tax, fixed by law, of 9*d.* per acre on land, and 1½*d.* in the £ on rental valuations.

5. There is also a special tax which was formerly levied for the upkeep of the militia but is now appropriated to the general revenue in aid of the expenditure for police, amounting to 8*d.* per acre on land, and 2*d.* in the £ on rental valuation.

6. Taking the population of the island at 185,000, the indirect taxation represented by the receipts under all heads of revenue which go to make up the retail prices of articles of general consumption may be put at 14*s.* per head.

7. The total taxable acreage of land is 100,000 acres and the taxation on it for all purposes amounts to an average of 4*s.* 11*d.* per acre. The total rental valuations amount to 98,378*l.*, and the average rate 1*s.* 1*d.* in the £.

8. There is also a tax on vehicles of 2*s.* 6*d.* per wheel, and on draught animals; of horses 6*s.*, mules 3*s.* 9*d.* and donkeys 2*s.* each. A certain proportion of penalties recovered in the Magistrates' courts for breaches of highway and sanitary laws is paid to the Parochial treasurers.

9. The total revenue of the Parochial treasuries for all services was, in 1894, 59,366*l.*, including a grant of 5,450*l.* from general revenue in aid of the upkeep of the roads.

10. The total expenditure of the vestries was 56,719*l.*, the greater portion of which was for the maintenance of the almshouses and poor relief. A total expenditure on 470 miles of roads of 14,641*l.*, or an average of 31*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* per mile, is included in the 56,719*l.*

Revenue.

	£
11. The estimated revenue under all heads for 1894 was - - - - -	161,034
The actual receipts under all heads amounted to - - - - -	160,624
As against an estimate for 1893 of - -	160,227
And actual receipts - - - -	161,730

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The following are the receipts under the principal heads for the past five years:—

Year.	Customs.	Port and Harbour.	Land Tax and Militia.	Excise.	Licenses.	Fees and Fines and Fees of Office.	Post Office.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	*116,415	5,616	3,644	30,517	6,628	6,144	6,650	16,965	186,179
1891 - - -	99,779	4,686	3,021	25,298	7,066	5,772	5,832	11,824	163,905
1892 - - -	92,340	4,299	3,309	28,919	6,249	6,049	7,908	10,666	162,663
			Police Tax.						
1893 - - -	93,480	4,614	3,899	†32,553	6,169	5,758	6,019	8,237	161,730
1894 - - -	94,244	4,234	3,619	29,422	6,473	5,624	6,732	10,276	160,624

* 1890. In this year the largest crop of sugar ever made in this island was reaped.

† 1893. A change in the system of collecting duty on rum distilled in the Island gave a sudden apparent increase to the receipts under excise.

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12. The Revenue for the past four years has been decreasing in inverse ratio to the population, being at the rate of about 1,000*l.* per annum, while the population has been increasing at at least the same rate.

It is satisfactory to notice that the Postal Revenue increases steadily, while great reductions have been made in the postal rates.

Expenditure.

	£
13. The total expenditure for 1894 was estimated at	165,291
The actual expenditure was	161,279
As against an estimated expenditure for 1893	165,632
And an actual expenditure of	164,633

14. Of the 161,279*l.*, 73,562*l.* comes under fixed establishments, and 87,717*l.* under services exclusive of establishments.

There are no new items of expenditure under either head which call for special remark.

15. The expenditure represents a tax of nearly 10*s.* 9*d.* per head of the population, which compares favourably with that of other places.

Public Debt.

16. The Public Debt of the Colony remained at the same figure as in 1893, 30,100*l.*, incurred in a loan raised in 1883 for carrying out various important Public Works, amongst which were :—

	£	
The Prison Extension	10,336	Carried out between August 1883 and May 1887.
The Reformatory	9,163	
The Central Police Station Extension	2,200	
Public Buildings Clock Tower	1,795	
Harbour Police Station	1,588	
Inland Telephones	1,300	
Harbour Dredger	1,000	
Quarantine Hospital	600	

The interest payable on the debentures is 4 per cent. The amount to the credit of the Sinking Fund on the 31st December 1894 was 12,574*l.*

Military Expenditure.

17. The Return of Military Expenditure for 1894, shows that 54,144*l.* was expended on the garrison at Barbados, the number

of all ranks stationed here being under 1,000. Of the above total, 29,782*l.* was for their pay and 15,491*l.* for their provisions and clothing; and of this, which amounted to 44,273*l.*, the greater part will have been spent in the Island.

18. The removal of the troops to St. Lucia is getting nearer every year, and the severe monetary loss to the Colony must very soon be taken into account in its financial calculations.

Public Works.

19. Nothing beyond the ordinary requirements for the upkeep and additions to Public Buildings, &c. was carried out this year. Owing to the death of Mr. Brady, Superintendent of Public Works, the Government decided to engage a special engineer for the carrying out of the improvements in the accommodation for berthing vessels in the Careenage and for the erection of a coaling jetty. The question of the larger extension of the Harbour Improvements was postponed for the present.

The total amount expended on Public Works during the year was 3,868*l.*

Legislation.

20. Twenty-nine Acts were passed by the Legislature which received the Royal Assent.

None of the Acts passed, though very useful locally, had any effect of importance on matters outside the Colony.

21. The subject which formed the principal topic of interest in the Legislative Chamber during the year was that of the rural water supply. In 1886 a contract, with an annual subsidy of 5,000*l.*, to supply the rural districts of the Island with water had been made with the Barbados Water Supply Company, the capital of which was raised and held by shareholders in England. The company performed its contract to a certain extent, but found itself continually obliged to apply to the Legislature of the Colony for further extension of time and other legislative expedients to enable it to carry out its original undertaking, failing which it would evidently speedily terminate. These advances to the Legislature met with very strong opposition from various quarters; and it finally became a question whether it would be better to allow the Bridgetown Water Works Company (practically a local company) which supplied the city and suburbs, to have the entire supplying of the Island, or for the Government, as representing the public at large, to take the matter into its own hands, buy up both companies and carry out the works by a public department. This course was finally decided upon, and it was arranged that it should be carried into effect by legislation during the ensuing year.

22. On the death of the Superintendent of Public Works this year an Act was passed reducing the salary of the Office from 600*l.* to 300*l.* The Legislature at the same time agreed that when special engineering work is required to be done the services of a special engineer should be obtained to carry it out.

Political Franchise.

23. The qualifications of voters for the House of Assembly and Vestry elections remain the same viz.,—*Freehold Estate* of annual value not less than 5*l.* *Rents of land* amounting to 5*l.* per annum. *Occupants* assessed parochially at 15*l.* annual value. *Taxpayers:* St. Michael's 2*l.*, other parishes 1*l.*, per annum. *Salaries:* In receipt of 4*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.* per month as agricultural attorney, manager, bookkeeper, clerk, agent, or upper servant. *Income:* In receipt of 50*l.* per annum from pension, occupation, office, or trade other than that of servant. *Income:* 15*l.* annually as interest or dividends. Barristers, solicitors, physicians, surgeons, or holders of degrees B.A. or M.A. or Testamur, Codrington College. *Lodger* in house rated at 15*l.* per annum, paying not less than 15*l.* for lodgings.

24. The total number of electors registered at the last general election on 17th September 1894, was 2,167, being 136 more than in 1893. The increase occurred in the parishes of St. Michael and St. Joseph.

Councils and Assemblies.

25. The Honourable Oswald Jones, who had sat in the Legislative Council since February 1881, resigned his seat owing to ill-health, and his place was filled by the appointment of the Honourable E. B. Colvin, who then represented St. Andrew in the House of Assembly, and was a member of the Executive Committee.

26. In the House of Assembly certain changes took place at the General Election in September. The newly elected members were :—

Mr. A. S. Bryden *vice* Mr. T. Peterkin for St. Michael.

Messrs. C. E. Gooding, M. B. and W. D. Shepherd *vice* Messrs. H. E. L. King and E. G. Watts for St. Philip.

Mr. R. Haynes *vice* Mr. C. C. Knollys, C.M.G., (Colonial Secretary, transferred to Trinidad), for St. Joseph.

Civil Establishment.

27. The principal changes were as follows :—

His Excellency the Governor, Sir James Hay, K.C.M.G., went to England on leave from the 21st October 1893 to the 22nd

April 1894. During his absence the Government was administered by Major-General G. Paton, C.M.G., Commanding the Troops.

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. C. C. Knollys, was promoted to be Colonial Secretary of Trinidad in February, and Mr. G. R. Le Hunte was transferred from Dominica (Leeward Islands) to the vacant office in March. During the interval, Mr. F. B. Smith, Provost-Marshal and Inspector of Prisons, acted as Colonial Secretary.

Mr. E. T. Grannum was appointed Auditor-General in May in succession to Mr. C. A. King Harman, who was promoted to be Colonial Secretary of Mauritius in 1893. During the interval, Mr. W. H. Bailey, Chief Clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, acted as Auditor-General.

Mr. S. J. Fraser, transferred from Tobago, was appointed Judge of the Petty Debt Court in December 1893, in succession to Mr. H. J. Lee Evans, deceased.

Mr. J. H. Brady, Superintendent of Public Works, died in July and his duties were carried out by Mr. E. F. S. Bowen, Chief Clerk in the Public Works Department, who was subsequently appointed to the vacant office.

Mr. G. T. White, Governor of the Prison, was promoted to be Superintendent of Prisons in Trinidad, and his office was filled by the appointment of Mr. J. M. Lash, Governor of the Gaol in Grenada.

Pensions.

28. The total amount of the Pension List for 1894 was 2,936*l.*, as against 3,631*l.* in 1893. No pension amounting to 100*l.* was granted during the year.

The principal pensioners (in receipt of pensions over 100*l.*) who died during the year were Mr. E. G. Clawson, 224*l.*; the Rev. W. D. Arrindell, 210*l.*; and Mr. A. St. John Watts, 133*l.*

Foreign Consuls.

29. The only changes in the Consular Representatives was the appointment of Mr. A. B. St. Hill as Vice-Consul for the United States in place of Mr. J. Challenor Lynch. Amongst the chief European countries, Italy and Belgium have no official representatives here.

Population and Vital Statistics.

30. The population of the Island at the date of the last census, 1891, was returned at 182,306 in an area of 166 square miles,

which gave an average of 1,100 to the square mile; but almost the whole Island being divided up into sugar estates, on the majority of which there is only the residence of the proprietors or managers and their domestics, the bulk of the population is confined to localities which would give a far higher average to the square mile than that above.

The population of Bridgetown and the parish of St. Michael was 56,183 on an area of 15 square miles, which gives over 3,700 to the square mile.

31. The only other Island under somewhat similar conditions in which the population per mile exceeds Barbados is Malta (including Gozo and Comino). In 1891 these returned a population of 177,225 on an area of 116 square miles, giving an average of over 1,500 to the square mile. These figures include the garrison, which is 10,000, as against less than 1,000 here, and also the crews of ships in harbour, which last have been deducted from the figures for this Island. In the case of Malta if, as is generally the case, there were men-of-war in harbour, the figures are material.

32. There is no doubt that our population is increasing at a rapid rate; in 1861 it was 152,727; in 1871, 162,042; in 1881, 171,860; in 1891, 182,306; and the rate of increase may be practically put at between 1,000 and 2,000 a year. Unfortunately the system of recording vital statistics in the Colony is not at all satisfactory; there is no proper record of births or deaths, but only of baptisms and burials instead; and though the number of deaths and burials may here be said to coincide, it by no means follows that that holds good of births and baptisms. The objection which has been raised to any alteration is based on the ground of unnecessary expense, but it keeps us behind many an inferior place in this respect. The return of baptisms for 1894 was 7,281 and of burials 6,367, showing that the increase this year could not have been less than between 900 and 1,000, in spite of the high death-rate. Taking the baptisms as births, the rate is 39 per 1,000, and the death-rate 34. But this last figure was abnormally large in this year, owing to the severe epidemic of typhoid and dysentery which visited the Island during the last half of the year, after the termination of the long and disastrous drought. The rains, when they did come, were insufficient to either carry into the sea the vegetable matter washed down from the higher to the lower lands, or to drive the disease-producing germ sufficiently deep into the ground to render it innocuous. The topographical analysis of the death-rate during this period is instructive. From the highlands of St. John and St. Andrew in the interior it rose from 16·7 and 19·6 per 1,000 respectively, to 33·1 and 45·5 per 1,000 in the low flat districts of Christ Church and St. Philip on the coast, the maximum figures being reached in the latter. The ordinary death-rate for the whole Island rose

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to the abnormal figure of 35 per 1,000. As the General Hospital in Bridgetown received a great number of typhoid and dysentery cases from all over the Island, the death-rate of St. Michael's parish was also raised beyond its fair average to 39·6.

The mortality was principally among the children and the aged; in St. Philip's two-thirds of the death were infants.

33. A comparison of the following figures is interesting:—

Death-rate of Barbados.

Decade.	Rate per 1,000.
1861–1870	21·54
1871–1880	33·66
1881–1890	27·01
1891–1894	29·71
One year 1894	34·40

And this with a population increasing at the rate of almost 10 per cent. per annum. Had it not been for the providentially low prices of flour and breadstuffs this year, (*See Imports*) the result of disease and death would have been even more marked amongst our great labouring population. To what does this point but the natural result of a struggle for existence in an overcrowded and ever overcrowding population? It does not mean that Barbados is getting less healthy or that there is any fear of its losing its reputation for being the healthiest of Her Majesty's tropical possessions, and even of its being able to bear comparison with any other place in this respect. It means that nature is exerting herself in a very unmistakable way; that the fight for life is getting sharper and that when hard times come, and their shadow is at our doors, the difficulties will become accentuated. No doubt in theory the weak will disappear before the strong, but experience shows that, unless some outlet be found for the surplus able-bodied of the population, the proportion of weak will gradually rise till they are not replaced by the strong. To ignore the ultimate result of this state of affairs in the physical life of our people is impossible, and therefore a solution of the difficulty must be found, and in this case the only practical one, and one to which nature will respond, is emigration. A Commission has been appointed to investigate and report on the best means of securing or encouraging the emigration of able-bodied families to other Islands in the West Indies where they may find permanent homes and be able to cultivate lands with easily marketable products.

This will form an important subject in next year's history of the Island; in the meantime it is sufficient to draw attention to it

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here. It would be well if the lower classes of the population here would recognise the vital importance to themselves of finding new room for the expansion of their vigour. No notion of obtaining this by going away for a few months, leaving their families to look after themselves, and returning for a spell to spend their earnings in this Island, will help them now, nor by subdividing lands and creating petty peasant holdings. This might benefit a few, an infinitesimal proportion, but under the conditions of this Island which (as far as human intelligence and experience go) can only produce one article of general consumption in the world at the present time, viz., sugar, the great bulk of the population can only live by earning money as labourers and they could not live by the produce of their holdings, not even if every estate proprietor was dispossessed and the whole Island cut up and divided amongst them. Their only chance depends on a regular demand for employment, and when the supply exceeds the demand, and the lowest limit of life-supporting-wage has been reached. emigration in its proper sense, and not as a mere temporary quest after labour, is the true and only solution. As a diffusing centre of energy and vigorous intelligence Barbados is unsurpassed amongst its neighbours, and the further afield it can send its surplus workers and form fresh colonies of Barbadians the higher it will raise its name, and thus in fact, as well as in theory, maintain its title of the England of the West Indies.

Savings Bank.

34. The Barbados Saving Bank, which has been established since 1852, has proved a most successful institution and by its transactions shows the great use which the community make of it, six per cent. of a total population of 187,000, of which by far the greater proportion are agricultural labourers, being depositors.

35. The returns for the past five years show :—

Year.	Number of Depositors.	Amount at credit.	Deposits during the year.	Withdrawals during the year.	Invested Funds.
		£	£	£	£
1890 - -	9,716	134,521	106,229	100,773	138,906
1891 - -	9,936	123,284	89,565	94,293	128,840
1892 - -	10,420	130,419	80,000	80,013	136,778
1893 - -	10,944	152,924	101,042	82,196	159,924
1894 - -	11,322	157,969	93,810	92,974	165,158

36. The bank allows interest at three per cent., the maximum limit to deposits is 300*l*., and the minimum is one shilling.

Friendly Societies.

37. There are 148 Friendly Societies, the objects of which are the usual ones in benefit of the members in sickness and of their families in death.

Ecclesiastical.

38. The cost of this establishment is unaltered, 10,352*l.*, in addition to Denominational grants, 50*l.* to the Roman Catholic, 400*l.* to the Moravian, and 700*l.* to the Wesleyan Churches.

A new church (St. Cyprian's) was opened in the Cathedral Parish, which is supported by voluntary contributions and served by the staff of the Cathedral.

Education.

39. The total expenditure under this Head amounted to 16,750*l.*, as against 16,980*l.* in 1893. There was an increase, however, in 1894 for elementary education of 396*l.*, although the number of schools was less by 12 than in the previous year The amount spent on elementary education in 1894 was 10,497*l.*

40. The average attendance of scholars was 15,962, out of a total on the rolls of 28,656, or very little more than 50 per cent. This falling off in attendance is however in a great measure to be attributed to the exceptional epidemics of dysentery and typhoid fever from which the Island suffered in the latter part of the year. (*See* Population and Vital Statistics.)

41. A Commission was appointed by the Governor, having the Bishop as its chairman, to inquire into and report on the important question of elementary education and especially with relation to its ever-increasing demands on the revenue of the Island. The report of the Commission has not yet been issued. The report of the Inspector of Schools shows a marked improvement in the result of the year's teaching in reading, dictation, and arithmetic, (especially the latter).

42. *Higher Grade Schools.*—There was an addition to the second-grade schools by the opening of the "Alexandra" school for girls in the parish of St. Peter, referred to in the last report. This school supplies a want which has long been felt, as the parish of St. Peter is some distance from the town, and the fact that there were 32 pupils at the school at the close of the year shows that it is appreciated. Miss M. S. Arnold, Undergraduate of London University, one of the Staff of the Queen's College, was appointed Head-mistress, and there are two assistant mistresses. The other second-grade schools, which are all for boys, had about the same number of pupils in the aggregate as at the end of 1893.

43. Of the first-grade schools, there was a falling-off at the end of the year in the number of pupils as compared with 1893. Harrison College from 148 to 133; Queen's College from 150 to 140; while the attendance at the Lodge School rose from 48 to 56 at the end of the year. Codrington College had only 17 students at the end of the year.

44. The curriculum of the first-grade boys' schools extends from an average upper fifth-form standard to the level of university scholarship, and comprises Greek and Latin, English, French and Mathematics. History (Roman and Greek) and Scripture History and selections from the Greek Testament are also taught.

45. At Queen's College (Girls) the fifth-form do the work for the Senior Cambridge Examination and the fourth-form for the Junior Cambridge Examination. The curriculum includes Religious Knowledge, English in its subjects, French, German, Mathematics, Botany, Drawing, and Lectures on Chemistry. Lessons are also given in writing and needlework, also in singing and drilling.

46. The reports on the examinations of the higher schools furnish evidence that the high standard of the teaching has been well maintained and the results of the good teaching at Harrison College are apparent in the success of former pupils who have gone to the English Universities in obtaining scholarships and honours.

Imports and Exports.

47. The total Imports of the Colony during 1894 amounted to 1,279,335*l.*, of which 507,534*l.* came from the United Kingdom, 227,514*l.* from British Colonies, and 544,287*l.* from Foreign Countries.

48. A comparison with the previous four years 1890-93 shows:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	1,193,724	508,698	213,256	471,770
1891 - - -	1,067,617	432,637	207,186	427,794
1892 - - -	1,081,572	469,318	195,855	416,399
1893 - - -	1,372,537	583,086	254,404	535,047
1894 - - -	1,279,335	507,534	227,514	544,287
Average for four years, 1890–93 - -	1,178,862	498,435	217,675	462,752

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The total imports for 1894, although 98,752*l.* below those of 1893, were considerably above the average for the previous four years.

In 1893 an alteration was made at the Customs Office in the method of valuing goods imported for statistical purposes, the charges for freight, &c., being added to the prime cost, which had been given in previous years. This accounts for the apparent sudden increase in values in 1893–94. While slightly disturbing the average for the period given above, this will in a few years rectify itself.

49. The falling-off in imports from the United Kingdom during 1894 compared with 1893 occurs in:—

	£
Raw material - - - -	24,044
Manufactured material - - -	70,294
Bullion - - - - -	631
	94,969
While there is an increase in:—	
Live-stock, foods, &c. - - -	19,414
Or a net falling-off of - - -	75,555

Under British Colonies there is a falling-off in:—

	£
Live-stock and foods, &c. - - -	18,246
Raw material - - - -	2,692
Bullion - - - - -	9,054
	29,992
While there is an increase in:—	
Manufactured material - - -	4,237
Or a [illegible] falling-off of - - -	25,755

Under Foreign countries there was an increase in:—

	£
Live stock and food - - - -	4,547
Manufactured material - - -	9,032
	13,579
While there was a falling-off in:—	
Raw material - - - -	3,170
Giving a total increase of - - -	10,409

50. These figures show that, while there was a total diminution of British trade to the amount of 101,310*l.*, there was an increase of 10,409*l.* in that with Foreign countries.

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51. *Live Stock, &c.*—There were a total number of 3,534 oxen, sheep, and pigs, imported as against 3,654 in 1893. The oxen came principally from the Foreign West Indies, Porto Rico, &c., the sheep from the United States, and pigs (only a small number), from British North America.

There were 1,150 horses, asses, and mules imported as against 899 in 1893. Horses came principally from British North America, asses from Foreign West Indies, and mules from the United States and Uruguay; those from the latter place being under the value of 12*l.* 10*s.* each.

52. *Food Stuffs.*—The total value of the principal articles of food consumption other than liquor and tobacco amounted in 1893 to 454,673*l*, and in 1894 to 428,403*l.*

Flour fell greatly in price from 1*l.* 11*s.* 7½*d.* per barrel in 1893 to 18s. per barrel in 1894 (freight included) and this import rose from 69,660 barrels in 1893, value 115,374*l.*, to 90,986 barrels, value 81,887*l.*, in 1894. There was to some extent a corresponding change in the value of biscuits and breadstuffs and a consequent rise in the quantity imported. The amounts imported were, in 1893, 4,747,724 lbs., value 28,506*l.*; in 1894, 6,225,924 lbs., value 34,243*l.*

The imports of bacon, beef, and pork show an increase for 1894 of 304,503 lbs., value 7,211*l.*; while there is a large falling-off in salt and pickled fish of nearly 10,000*l.*, showing a natural appreciation of our population for the better description of food when the price comes within their reach.

There was a large increase in corn and maize, principally for stock; owing to the prolonged drought, fodder of all sorts becoming very scarce in this year:—

1893.—6,266,434 lbs., value, 25,849*l.*
1894.—11,092,245 lbs., value, 44,369*l.*

Hay and Straw.

	£
1893 - - - - - -	6,106
1894 - - - - - -	8,666

53. Of Foodstuffs, *the United Kingdom* supplied us with the larger quantities of butter, salt, tea, cocoa (prepared).

The British Colonies, British North America, with fish (salted and pickled.)

British West Indies, sugar (muscovado), molasses, coffee, (a large quantity also came from the United States), cocoa (unground).

India, Rice.

Foreign Countries.—United States, bacon (in 1893 the larger proportion came from the United Kingdom), beef, pork, margarine, lard, cheese, biscuits, flour, corn-meal, corn and maize, grain, oats, hay and straw, sugar (crystalized and refined).

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1894.

Foreign West Indies.—Sugar (vacuum pan), Coffee (the larger quantity from British West Indies).

54. *Liquors.*—The total value of Liquor imported was, in 1893, 27,702*l.*, in 1894, 30,677*l.*

There was an increase in quantities in Malt, Brandy, Whisky, (and Liqueurs), Wine in Wood, and a decrease in Gin and Wine in bottles.

The bulk of the imports of Liquor came from the United Kingdom.

55. *Tobacco.*—(All kinds.) Total quantity imported, the bulk being from the United States :—

1893. 209,571 lbs.; value 9,682*l.*
1894. 181,761 lbs.; value 9,125*l.*

Exports.

56. The total value of the exports from the Colony in 1894 was 984,512*l.*; of which 772,003*l.* were the produce or manufactures of the Island, and 212,509*l.* British, Foreign and other Colonial produce and manufactures.

57. A comparison of the five years from 1890 to 1894 inclusive shows :—

Year.	Produce or Manufactures of the Colony.	British, Foreign, &c.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - -	1,040,720	163,670	1,204,390
1891 - -	621,014	193,241	814,255
1892 - -	751,924	174,649	926,573
1893 - -	1,030,513	212,570	1,243,083
1894 - -	772,003	212,509	984,512

I.

The Produce or Manufactures of the Island.

58. The principal, one might really say the sole, product of the Island is Sugar, with its resultants, Molasses and Rum.

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1894.

The exports of Sugar for the years 1890 to 1894 were :—

Year.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Total.	Value.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	£
1890 - -	81,868	3,393	85,261	869,575
1891 - -	48,186	2,361	50,547	509,285
1892 - -	56,619	2,630	59,249	605,640
1893 - -	63,517	3,640	67,157	851,780
1894 - -	62,175	3,047	65,222	616,253

59. It may be of use to see the direction of this trade during the above period as shown by the shipments of sugar and molasses to the various markets of the world.

Sugar.

Year.	United Kingdom.		British Possessions and British North America.	
	Muscovado.	Dry.	Muscovado.	Dry.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1890 - -	6,967	3,342	3,000	Nil.
1891 - -	3,156	2,357	1,521	4
1892 - -	7,940	2,213	1,448	Nil.
1893 - -	5,057	3,510	1,682	29
1894 - -	7,110	3,054	4,879	2

(*continued.*)

Year.	United States.		Foreign Countries.		Export Value.		
	Muscovado.	Dry	Muscovado.	Dry.	Per Ton.		
	Tons.	Tons	Tons.	Tons.	£	s.	d.
1890 -	71,576	51	325	Nil.	10	0	0
1891 -	42.688	Nil.	22	Nil.	10	0	0
1892 -	47,220	417	110	Nil.	10	0	0
1893 -	56.092	97	341	Nil.	12	10	0
1894 -	50,125	Nil.	61	1	9	5	0

Molasses.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions and British North America.	United States.	Foreign Countries.	Export Value.
	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Per Puncheon.
					£ s. d.
1890 -	830	43,622	5,351	1,513	3 0 0
1891 -	103	28,058	2,720	1,417	3 0 0
1892 -	291	35,353	6,572	752	3 0 0
1893 -	385	28,757	13,880	352	4 0 0
1894 -	1,619	34,125	7,649	165	3 5 0

60. The export in Rum has arisen from 95 gallons in 1890 to 12,962 gallons in 1894. A refinery was established in 1893 near Bridgetown. The rum is, however, manufactured mainly from imported molasses.

The Rum made in the island and exported in 1894 was distributed as follows:—

United Kingdom.	British West Indies	British North America.	United States.	Foreign West Indies.	Total.
Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
2,737	4,761	2,219	1,182	2,063	12,962

It is to be remarked that in 1893 only 26 gallons of rum were exported to the United Kingdom, and the sudden increase is no doubt to be attributed to the same cause as that to which the Chancellor of the Exchequer drew attention in his recent address on the Budget to the Imperial Parliament, when he remarks that the sudden increase in the imports of Rum into Great Britain was co-incident with the Influenza epidemics.

61. The other products of the Island were hides, value 556*l.*, British West Indies took 531*l.*; Ice, 444 tons, value 888*l.*, all to British West Indies; vegetables (raw) value 5,566*l.*, British Guiana alone took 4,885*l.* and the other British West Indies 473*l.*; whale-oil, 175 barrels, value 460*l.*, all to Great Britain.

II.

Exports other than the Produce of the Colony.

62. Barbados, from its position, has been always the natural centre for distributing commodities imported from abroad throughout the neighbouring West Indian Colonies, both English and Foreign. This advantage, however, is being gradually

neutralised by the rapid extension of the steamer traffic calling at many of the ports which were in former times dependent on communication by sailing vessels, and therefore, as importers in many of the Islands are now able to obtain direct delivery of their orders, whether large or small, there is less need to look to Barbados for their supplies.

63. A considerable trade, however, still remains in our hands, as will be seen by the following figures. The principal articles imported and subsequently exported from here are:—animals, articles of food and drink, clothing, &c., household requisites, hardware, lumber and building materials, grain and fodder, manures, &c., miscellaneous.

64. In 1894 these were distributed between British and Foreign West Indian Colonies as follows. It is right to point out, however, that these include one or two shipments to the United Kingdom, one to France, and to the United States. The total of these will not be found to appreciably affect the analysis of the trade.

Exports other than the Produce of the Colony.

—	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.
	£	£
Animals - - - -	5,783	1,875
Provisions - - - -	76,365	22,490
Liquors - - - -	7,920	69
Tobacco - - - -	1,180	3
Clothing, &c. - - -	29,220	1,163
Household Requisites (soap, candles, petroleum, matches).	2,545	129
Hardware - - - -	4,734	121
Lumber - - - -	6,570	716
Cement, lime and bricks - -	2,584	239
Grain and fodder - - -	11,891	12,695
Manures - - - -	11,421	2,529
Miscellaneous - - -	1,696	314
Bullion - - - -	3,548 (all but 600*l.* to United Kingdom.)	—
Whale-oil - - - -	—	4,709 (United States.)
	165,457	47,052
	Total - £212,509	

Barbados. 1894.

65. Analysing the whole trade of Barbados with other countries, the order in which they come, measured by the amount of business done in 1894, was as follows :—

Inward Trade. Total Imports.—1,279,334*l.*

	£	
United Kingdom	507,534	
United States America	469,510	
British North America	110,278	
British West Indies	77,888	(British Guiana, 25,511*l.*)
South America	47,971	
India	38,202	
Foreign West Indies	18,724	(Dutch Guiana, 1,492*l.*)
Various foreign (aggregate)	8,083	
Various British	1,144	

Outward Trade. Total Exports.—984,512*l.*

	£	
United States America	503,063	
British West Indies	165,658	(British Guiana, 41,526*l.*)
British North America	153,611	
United Kingdom	127,444	
Foreign West Indies	17,432	(Dutch Guiana, 7,982*l.*)
South America, (Brazil)	5,474	
Various foreign (aggregate)	208	
France	11,622	

66. Finally, taking the countries in the order of total business, both inward and outward, we have :—

Total.—2,263,846*l.*

	£
United States	972,573
United Kingdom	634,978
British North America	263,889
British West Indies	243,546
South America	53,445
India	38,202
Foreign West Indies	36,156
France	11,622
Various (aggregate)	9,435
	£2,263,846

Shipping.

67. The total number of vessels arriving and clearing and which did business with the Customs House, as distinguished from those merely calling and leaving, without discharging or taking in cargo, were :—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1893 - -	905	137,615	324	474,704	1,279	612,313
1894 - -	850	118,913	337	495,928	1,187	614,841

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1893 - -	905	136,663	324	475,085	1,229	611,748
1894 - -	852	121,477	337	496,094	1,189	617,571

Showing a total increase in tonnage and the gradual displacement of the sailing ship by the steamer.

Of the 850 sailing vessels (118,913 tons) which entered, 722 (with an aggregate of 71,275 tons) were British; and of the 128 foreign vessels (47,638 tons) 20 (6,661 tons) were from Great Britain.

Of the 337 steamers (495,928 tons), 123 (204,929 tons) came from Great Britain, and 149 (199,276 tons) came from British ports in North America or the West Indies.

68. The above figures are taken from statistics furnished by the Custom House, but, as they only deal with vessels doing cargo business with the Island, it is useful to see what the total number of vessels is which call here, whether bringing or taking away cargo, or merely for orders or "seeking"; this is obtained from the Harbour Master's returns, from which a five years' comparison is taken.

Year.	Total number of ships.	Tonnage.	Trading Steamers.	Tonnage.
1890 - -	2,475	1,177,169	432	571,989
1891 - -	2,089	1,061,789	352	572,780
1892 - -	2,040	1,076,956	411	597,511
1893 - -	2,079	1,034,890	386	538,195
1894 - -	1,808	910,669	403	562,266

69. These returns, when analysed, give the following numbers of vessels belonging to the several countries named. There are a few from other countries which are not noticed;—

Nationality.	1890.		1891.		1892.		1893.		1894.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British - - - - -	1,656	759,135	1,367	658,645	1,338	681,281	1,402	722,635	1,264	675,258
American - - -	220	141,742	211	170,330	206	167,333	170	84,406	125	60,155
Norwegian - -	311	148,955	261	131,538	283	131,961	256	125,325	205	87,531
Swedish - - - -	56	21,683	48	18,485	54	24,133	44	19,662	34	12,884
Italian - - - -	51	32,621	35	20,264	34	18,970	58	33,453	27	16,233
German - - - -	57	27,989	44	25,438	46	25,756	45	20,032	36	22,000
French - - - -	27	10,189	32	12,165	27	12,429	25	10,078	30	10,648
Dutch - - - -	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	3,466	31	3,598

These figures include vessels of *all* descriptions. The return shows a falling off in number and tonnage of vessels of all the above nationalities excepting Dutch, which gives a slight increase of 3 for 1894 over 1893.

70. The principal steamer lines calling regularly here are the Royal Mail, England to Jamaica and Colon, and the inter-island steamers. This port being the headquarters of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and the rendezvous for this fortnightly service means that 130 of their steamers arrive and leave the port during the year, exclusive of cargo steamers, which may be put at 12 more, making a total of 50 steamers annually. The importance of this to the commercial community and to the many sections of the population, to whom money is distributed through a hundred channels, cannot be overestimated. The value of the Royal Mail alone to the port is not less than 18,000*l.* per annum.

The other principal lines are:—

From England (London) Scrutton (Direct Line) monthly.
From England (Liverpool) West India and Pacific, monthly.
From England (Liverpool) Harrison's, monthly.
From United States (New York) Quebec Steamship Company.
From Canada (Halifax) West India Steamship Line.

The fares (single) to England by Royal Mail are: 1st class, from 23*l.* to 32*l.* 2nd class, 18*l.* Average passage, 11 days.

Quebec Steamship Company to New York, United States: 1st class, 12*l.* 10*s.* to 13*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.* 3rd class, 6*l.* 5*s.* Passage through the West India Islands, 15 days; and direct, 9 days.

Quebec Steamship Company to Halifax, Nova Scotia: 1st class 10*l.* 8*s.* 4*d.*

Royal Mail to Trinidad, West Indies, 3*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.*
Royal Mail to Demerara, 4*l.*
Royal Mail to Jamaica, 8*l.* 10*s.*
Royal Mail to Colon (connecting with Pacific routes) 9*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*

Gaols and Prisoners.

71. The total cost of the Prison in 1894 was 4,746*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* as against 4,961*l.* 2*s.* 9*d.*, in 1893.

Year.	Adults.		Juveniles.		Total.	Daily Average.	Annual cost per head.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.			£ *s.* *d.*
1893 -	1,681	1,794	43	18	3,536	370	13 8 2
1894 -	1,852	1,824	50	10	3,736	356	13 6 8

72. There were 1,122 punishments in 1894, as against 932 in 1893.

73. During 1894, 10 prisoners were released on ticket-of-leave under the mark system, which works satisfactorily.

Industrial Labour.

74. One of the principal industries of the prison is the cooperage, where hogsheads and puncheons are largely made and purchased for the export of Sugar and Molasses.

The price of a hogshead is 13*s.* 6½*d.*, and a puncheon 9*s.* 4½*d.* In 1894 the cooperage earned 71*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* net profit, after deducting the cost of material, &c.

Cocoanut-fibre is made in the prison and sold for 23*l.* 10*s.* 10*d.*

	£	*s.*	*d.*
The estimated value of labour performed by male labour outside the prison, quarrying stone and building, was	597	10	8
Inside the prison, Tailor's Shop	85	8	8
" " " Blacksmith	21	13	4
	704	12	8

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Female Labour, fibre-making	45	15	7
" " Laundry	152	0	0
	197	15	7

The prison bakery supplied 104,342 lbs. of bread to the prison, the lunatic asylum, and the leper asylum, at a total cost of 668*l.* 3*s.* 4*d.*, which, compared with the ordinary price of bread, effected a saving of 636*l.* 2*s.* 2*d.* in the year.

75. The health of the prison was good, 54 cases being treated in hospital; two deaths occurred.

Dodds Reformatory.

76. The number of boys in the Reformatory at "Dodds" on the 1st January 1894 was 119. The admissions during the year were 30, and 26 were discharged, leaving 123 inmates on the 31st December 1894.

The boys are principally employed in cultivating the land round the reformatory in experimental cane cultivation, under the superintendence of Mr. J. R. Bovell, F.L.S., who is also the curator of the botanical station. The different varieties of cane most suitable to the soil and climate of the Island are tested here with different manuring processes in order to ascertain the best return that can be obtained. These experiments are of great practical value to the planters and many avail themselves of the advantage to obtain plant canes from the Institution. A special study of the sugar-cane fungus disease (*Trichosphæria Sacchari Mass.*) was made at the reformatory by Mr. Bovell, who also examined into the subject closely at Kew, with the director and his staff, during his absence on leave to England this year.

A report on the subject was issued by a Commission to investigate the question and the matter will form an item in the legislation of 1895.

77. The total cost of the reformatory for 1894, including salaries, was 1,757*l.* 7*s.* 4½*d.*, and the average cost per boy per annum was 14*l.* 14*s.* 3*d.* The discipline and management of this Institution leaves nothing to be desired, except that it would be a good thing for the island if it was capable of receiving a much larger number of boys. The only point which is not quite satisfactory is the difficulty in providing honest means of livelihood for the boys when they have completed their term of restraint and are discharged to find their own living. This point deserves more attention than has hitherto been given to it.

Hospitals and Poor Relief.

78. The relief of the suffering and destitute is a burden which the Colony has boldly faced and generously undertaken, and little remains to be done but to take care that the large contributions of the taxpayers to this object be guided into the proper channels of relief and that improvements in detail be effected whenever opportunity presents itself and funds allow.

79. The three Institutions which are supported either wholly or partly by the general revenue are :—

The general hospital, under a board of management.

The lunatic asylum, and the leper asylum, or lazaretto, each under a superintendent, subject to the control of the Governor in executive committee.

80. The other Institutions which are supported entirely by the local or parochial funds are the parish almshouses and dispensaries, which are under the board of guardians appointed by the vestries of each parish.

81. The average yearly expenditure on the three Government institutions is 14,170*l.* and of the parochial institutions 17,895*l.*, or a total of 32,065*l.*, representing an expediture of about 3*s.* 6*d.* per head on a population of 185,000, a very serious burden on any community.

82. The total cost of the general hospital in 1894 was 6,433*l.* The daily average number of inmates 221. The number of cases treated in the wards 3,393, 1,205 cases were admitted from the outlying parishes, cases cured 2,031, deaths 232 (6·8 per cent. of the cases treated). The number of out-patients treated was 20,729.

83. The cost of the lunatic asylum was 5,584*l.* The daily average number of inmates was 317. There is a steady increase

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in the number of cases admitted to the lunatic asylum. The registers on 31st December show as follows:—

31st December, 1889,	274.	These include patients allowed to go on visits to their relations, though not discharged as cured.
" " 1890,	281.	
" " 1891,	317.	
" " 1892,	347.	
" " 1893,	341.	
" " 1894,	361.	

84. The cost of the leper asylum was 2,783*l*. The daily average of inmates was 116, and the admissions for the year 22.

85. The total expenditure of the parochial authorities on poor relief amounted to 18,045*l*. which is divisible under the following heads: —

Medical staff, servants, and miscellaneous	7,478*l*.	11 parishes
Maintenance of inmates of almshouses	7,247*l*.	
Outdoor relief - - -	3,320*l*.	
	£18,045	

The expenditure in the parish of St. Michael's almshouse is, of course, very much greater than in any other, the daily average of inmates in the almshouse being nearly 300, while that in St. Lucy does not exceed 30. The report of the Poor Law Inspector points to the satisfactory improvement in the management of the almshouses generally, and the establishment of ambulance apparatus in some of them. It were well if these were obtained by all and then much suffering in the transport of accident cases would be saved. The inspector unceasingly directs the attention of the parochial authorities to the necessity for,avoiding the confusion between indiscriminate charity and the real relief of the destitute or suffering, and probably still more economy could be exercised in this respect. On the whole, the several Institutions are in a very satisfactory condition and are a credit to any Colony.

Meteorological.

86. The mean barometric pressure was 29·937 inches, the highest recorded being 30·014 inches in March and the lowest, 29·849 inches, in November.

The highest temperature was 88·4° Fahrenheit in September and the lowest 64°, in February.

Mean temperature for the year 79·9° with a mean range of 16·8°.

87. The year 1894 was phenomenal for the long periods of dry weather and the steady continuance of the South-east trade beyond its ordinary limit.

From the records of the observations which are very carefully taken at the botanical station at Dodds in the parish of St.

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Philip, it is found that the total rainfall of the Island for the year was less than 40 inches and this was distributed over a total number of 143 days on which rain fell. So low a rainfall has not been experienced for several years. The minimun of rain fell in May, less than one inch (·73), the maximum in September, 11·46 inches.

The rainfall records for 1892 show 75·43 inches in 202 days, and for 1893, 58·10 inches in 193 days.

Before 1892 the returns are irregularly published in the Blue Book.

88. During the year 1894 a more complete system of getting meteorological returns was organized. Observations are now daily recorded at the Commercial Hall in Bridgetown, the Botanical Station at Dodds, and at the Light-house at Ragged Point, on the Eastern side where the wind and state of the sea are registered. These observations are collated and forwarded every month to the Hydrographical Department of the United States at Washington, which supplies the forms and makes use of the information in its monthly publications. From its position, to the East or Windward of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados would form an extremely valuable observing station, especially during the season when hurricanes may be expected. On the first intimation of the approach of a cyclone, its position and direction would be telegraphed through the Islands, and to the Hydrographical Office at Washington, which is in constant communication with its stations on the American Coast.

In 1893 the first intimation of three cyclones, two of which caused immense damage both on land and at sea, along the coasts of the Atlantic, was sent from the Leeward Islands and enabled timely warning to be given in front of the passage of the storm at other places along its course. It would be a wise thing if a system of observing stations were organised throughout all the Islands, ensuring uniformity in the time and method of observing, which is very important if the work is to be of practical value. The Government of Martinique has established a regular observing station and the Governor of that Colony suggested the establishment of a similar station here and the systematic interchange of information.

89. The subject of observing stations throughout the West Indian Islands appears to have been raised at one time, but appears to have been lost sight of, probably on the ground of the expense of fitting them up with the proper instruments (the cost of upkeep after the first outlay is trifling). When anyone considers what can be saved or lost by the foreknowledge of a hurricane, whether at sea or on land, there can be no doubt that expenditure in this direction may be a very good investment.

90. The fact that no cyclone of any importance has visited this Island since 1831 has, it is to be feared, filled the people with the false belief that we are situated outside the hurricane line, and no

doubt year after year we have heard of cyclones forming and passing to the north and west of us, but there is no real foundation for this theory and as a matter of fact, we are liable in any year to be visited with disaster from this source of danger. Indeed, in October of the year under report (1894), a cyclone passed to the south of this Island, but fortunately its area was as yet small and no very serious damage was done; the principal sufferers were the occupants of little wooden shanties, which were blown away; and the Legislature immediately voted a sum of 1,000*l.* for their relief. The Police Force acted admirably in collecting information, which enabled the parochial boards of guardians, to whom the distribution of the money was entrusted, to relieve promptly and judiciously. Experience has too often shown how money can be wasted in indiscriminate distributions in such cases, but in the present case the result was satisfactory.

Several of the fishing boats were blown away to sea, but most of them reached other Islands and very few lives were lost.

General.

91. The cane cultivation suffered severely from the drought, the effect of which will be acutely felt in the output for 1895. In many places the young canes were so dried up that they had to be dug up and the land left fallow until it could be replanted with provisions (sweet potatoes, &c.). These became very scarce during the drought, and the labouring classes would have suffered very much more had not the prices of flour and breadstuffs from the United States been lower than they had ever been before.

The canes, weakened by the want of rain, were more vigorously attacked by the "moth," "weevil," and "shot-borers," three distinct species of the cane-borers, while the fungus disease, about which there are differences of opinion even amongst the scientific world, which attacks the roots and stems of the cane, made rapid and fatal progress. The Director of the Royal Gardens at Kew (with whose assistance Mr. Bovell, Curator of the botanical station and superintendent of Dodds Reformatory, where agricultural experiments are being continually carried on, made a thorough investigation of the disease), gave the most emphatic advice that the Government should take early and energetic steps to cope with its rapid spread, and a Commission appointed for the purpose of recommending what remedial measures could best be adopted continued this work with the object of getting a bill dealing with the subject before the Legislature during the ensuing year.

92. Another effect of the drought was to greatly reduce the water supply in the rural districts, and this materially hastened the "water question" to its final culmination. (*See* remarks under "Legislation.")

93. Though the statistics for 1895, will undoubtedly show a very serious falling off in the trade of the Colony, due to the

temporary check caused by the short crop of 1894, there is no reason to fear for the progress of the island or of its sound position in the financial world. Economy and prudence will be necessary in dealing with public as well as private concerns, but no reasonable opportunity of effecting improvement in any direction should be avoided or overlooked because there is for the moment a strain on resources which in the case of this island have always proved equal to an emergency.

G. RUTHVEN LE HUNTE,
Colonial Secretary.

Barbados, May 31, 1895.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 173.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

(For Report for 1894 *see* No. 140 of this Series.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1896.

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1896.

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ANNUAL.

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138	Bermuda	1894
139	Bahamas	"
140	Barbados	"
141	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
142	Malta	"
143	Gambia	"
144	Windward Islands	"
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146	Gibraltar	"
147	Falkland Islands	"
148	Hong Kong	"
149	Straits Settlements	"
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151	Seychelles	"
152	Basutoland	1894–5
153	Fiji	1894
154	St. Helena	"
155	Ceylon	"
156	Mauritius	"
157	Labuan	"
158	Gold Coast	"
159	British Guiana	"
160	Sierra Leone	"
161	Jamaica	1894–5
162	British Honduras	1894
163	British Bechuanaland	1894–5
164	Newfoundland	1894
165	Gambia	1895
166	Bermuda	"
167	Leeward Islands	1894
168	British New Guinea	1894–5
169	Zululand	1895
170	Sierra Leone	"
171	Gibraltar	"
172	Malta	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.

No. 173.

BARBADOS.
1895.

BARBADOS.

[For Report for 1894 *see* No. 140.]

Sir J. S. HAY to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
May 27, 1896.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of the Blue Book of Barbados for the year 1895, together with a report thereon by Mr. G. R. Le Hunte, Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.
J. S. HAY.

BLUE BOOK REPORT.

Taxation.

1. This subject was dealt with in detail in the report for last year (No. 140); there have been no changes since.

Revenue.

	£
2. The estimated revenue under all heads for 1895 was - - - - -	159,108
The actual receipts under all heads amounted to - - - - -	146,315
Less than estimate -	12,793
As against an estimate for 1894 of - -	161,034
And actual receipts of - - -	160,624

3. The cause of the serious falling off in the revenue of 1895 is, as was foreshadowed in the report of 1894, due entirely to the disastrous drought and the severe attacks of the cane fungus disease, and the export of sugar fell to 36,451 hogsheads, being less than the average of the previous four years by 24,093 hogsheads.

This unfortunate period of agricultural financial depression is now fortunately passing away and the resources of the Colony are regaining their proper stability. (*See* General Remarks, page 23.)

Barbados.
1895.

4. The following are the receipts under the principal heads for the past six years :—

—	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs - - - -	116,415	99,779	92,340	94,480	94,244	82,529
Port and harbour - -	5,616	4,686	4,299	4,614	4,234	3,239
Militia and police tax - -	3,893	3,644	6,331	3,899	3,619	3,603
Excise - - - -	30.517	25,298	28,919	32,553	29,422	25,666
Licenses - - - -	6,628	7,066	6,249	6,169	6,473	6,012
Fees and fines and fees of office	6,144	5,772	6,049	5,758	5,624	4,671
Post Office - - -	6,650	5,832	7,909	6,020	6,732	6,594
Miscellaneous - - -	10,316	11,828	10,567	8,237	10,276	14,001
Totals - - -	186,179	163,905	162,663	161,730	160,624	146,315

Expenditure.

	£
5. The total expenditure for 1895 was estimated at - - - - -	165,560
The actual expenditure was - - -	152,039
Under estimate - - -	13,521
As against an estimated expenditure for 1894	165,291
And an actual expenditure in 1894 of -	161,279

Of the 152,039*l.*, 76,171*l.* comes under fixed establishments and 75,868*l.* under services exclusive of establishments.

Public Debt.

6. The Public Debt of the Colony which was 30,000*l.* for the Public Works Loan 1883 (4 per cent. interest) has been increased by 375,000*l.* for the Waterworks Loan 1895, raised for the purpose of purchasing and constructing works for the water supply of the Island (see Legislation). The interest on the debentures is 3 per cent.—1 per cent. sinking fund. The total debt on the 31st December 1895 was 405,000*l.* The amount to the credit of the sinking fund was 16,073*l.*

Military Expenditure.

7. The return of military expenditure for 1895 shows that 63,482*l.* was expended on the garrison at Barbados

The Imperial authorities have again drawn the attention of the Colonial Government to the certain removal of the troops to St. Lucia at a near date.

Public Works.

8. The only public work of importance undertaken in 1895 was the rebuilding of the pier head and outer wall of the Careenage, the face of which had fallen in and become useless for any purpose.

9. Under the supervision of an experienced engineer, Mr. G. H. Stephens, C.E., especially sent out for the purpose, the broken down wall was refaced in concrete, affording berthing accommodation for three vessels of fair size, with 50,000 square feet of wharfage, of which 25,000 is available for warehouses, &c. The railway company have laid lines along the new pier, which they intend to connect with their main lines. The mouth of the Careenage was also blasted and dredged to a uniform depth of 16 feet at low water. The work was begun in May 1895, and finished in October 1895, at a total cost of 9,679*l.*, which was defrayed from a fund which had been set apart for the purpose of previous years' revenues. An experienced professional diver was obtained from England (Mr. Murphy), who not only completed his work in a shorter time than was expected, but trained a staff who have since proved themselves quite competent to carry out any ordinary diving operations.

Legislation.

10. Twenty-eight Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year, all of which, except two, Central Factory Act and Estate Duty Act, received the Royal Assent. The latter of these has since received it, the other is dependent on an amendment not yet carried out.

11. As was stated in the Blue Book Report for 1894, paragraph 21, the most important measure for the consideration of the Legislature during the session was the transfer to the Government of the Waterworks Companies plants and undertakings. This was effected by Acts Nos. 1 and 2 under which the works, &c. of the Barbados Water Supply Company were taken over at a cost of 59,100*l.*, and those of the Bridgetown Waterworks Company, 149,812*l.*, total, 208,912*l.*; provision being made, as in the case of the latter, for the paying off of debenture bondholders as the bonds became due. The total amount of money required by the Government, 375,000*l.*, was raised very successfully by the Crown Agents in London at 102*l.* 7*s.* 1*d.* per cent. bearing interest at 3 per cent. The ordinary provision is made for the sinking fund at 1 per cent.

12. By Act No. 3, "The Waterworks Act, 1895," the management of the waterworks construction and maintenance was vested in a special department called the Waterworks Department, subject to the control of the Governor in Executive Committee. The department was formed of seven gentlemen, of whom two had been or were directors of the Bridgetown Waterworks Company; their meetings are held weekly and the members

receive a fee of 1*l.* per attendance. The appointment of the officials of the department is vested in the department subject to the confirmation of the Governor.

The Engineer of the Bridgetown Waterworks Company was appointed engineer and manager of the new department at a salary of 1,000*l.*, with travelling expenses.

The secretary of the Company was appointed secretary to the department at a salary of 600*l.*

Assistants to the engineer and secretary were also appointed.

All appointments are limited to three years, with yearly re-engagement, for as long as may be necessary.

13. The Act embodies all the provisions for the construction and maintenance of a water supply to the town and to country districts for public use and to private consumers. The new department took over the works of both companies on the 1st of April and the work has been energetically carried on since that date.

Up to the 31st December the expenditure of the department was as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Purchase of Barbados Water Supply Company's works, &c. - -	59,100	9	11
Purchase of Bridgetown Waterworks Company's works, &c. -	149,812	0	2
Sum set apart for the gradual paying off of the debenture holders -	14,976	10	0
Purchase of Coles Caves Spring -	3,000	0	0
Total - -	226,889	0	1

14. As the increased expenditure from the general revenue for the payment of the interest and sinking fund of the waterworks loan had to be met by an increase in the revenue it was decided to supply the deficiency by restoring the rates of customs tariff on items which had been reduced by the change of tariff in 1891 when the McKinley tariff was adopted here with the idea of securing a stable market for the sugar exporters to the United States. The loss of revenue to the Customs by that step amounted to 12,700*l.* per annum, and this was now in part restored by reverting generally to the original scale in the case of items on which the duty had been lowered. Some slight alterations were made in other items. (*See* Imports, page 10.)

15. The next measure of importance was Act No. 19, to provide for the erection and maintenance of a central sugar factory. As is known to all visitors to the West Indies, Barbados is composed entirely of a large number of sugar estates of all sizes and shapes and at every variety of elevation between sea level and 1,100 feet. A very large number of these estates—of the smaller ones by far the greater number—are still dependent on windmills for crushing power and on boiling in the open in coppers and taytches, the sugar being granulated by hand power oscillators. In the larger factories steam power is used and

boiling in vacuo, or as it is usually termed the vacuum-pan system. The advantage of the improved machinery is rapidly making itself apparent, and most estates which can afford it are replacing steam for wind power, even where they have not yet adopted the more advanced processes for making sugar.

16. At the present time when cane sugar is driven to the closest, the unfairest, competition with bounty paid beet sugar, the life of a colony such as Barbados depends on its being able to export the best quality of produce and sell it to the best advantage, and while in fair seasons here quantity is assured the strain is to get such a quality of sugar as will hold its own and sell in our foreign markets.

A scheme was therefore set on foot and, after careful consideration, adopted by the Government to enable a number of proprietors to combine together and with the assistance of a Government loan to erect a factory capable of producing the best qualities of sugar crystals at a minimum cost compared with what the individual efforts of the estates would have been able to produce.

17. The Executive having supplied the necessary capital, which in the first instance is limited to 50,000*l.*, to erect a factory capable of crushing 1,500 acres of canes, retains legal possession of the factory and a voice in its management (which is vested in a board of directors, five appointed by the estates, two by the Executive) until the loan is paid up by the operation of a sinking fund formed by a per-centage of the produce of the factory; after the loan is paid up the factory becomes the absolute property of the group of estates which had combined to support it, and it is left entirely to their management.

The Royal Assent was withheld from this measure because the security to the Government for the repayment of the loan is insufficient, the Legislature not having made the loan a first charge on the estates with priority over all and any other incumbrances and charges. Should the Legislature see their way to this amendment the measure will become law. The matter will probably be under consideration during 1896.

18. The only other measure which requires mention as affecting the estates of persons residing away from the Island is Act No. 20, which imposes for the revenue of the Colony on the estates of absentee proprietors in this Island the same duty on the passing of the property at the death of the proprietor as would be payable in England on such property if situate in that country.

Political Franchise.

19. The total number of electors registered at the last general election on the 17th September 1895 was 2,341, being 174 more than in 1894. The increase occurred in the parishes of Christ Church, St. George, and St. Philip, and notably in St. Lucy's parish.

Councils and Assemblies.

20. The only change in the Executive Council is that Major-General Fowler-Butler, Commanding the Troops, took the place of Major-General Leach, C.B.

In the House of Assembly certain changes took place at the general election in September. The newly-elected members were Mr. J. Gardiner Austin vice Mr. E. T. Grannum, for St. Michael's (Bridgetown). Mr. H. Graham Yearwood, vice Mr. Thomas Gill, (who died) for St. Joseph.

Civil Establishments.

21. The Governor, Sir. J. S. Hay, K.C.M.G., was absent on leave from the Colony from August to December, during which time the Government was administered by the Honourable G. R. le Hunte, Colonial Secretary, to whom the Queen's Commission dormant had been issued on the retirement of Major-General Leach, C.B., Commanding the Troops.

Pensions.

22. The total amount of the Pension List for 1895 was 2,768*l.* as against 2,936*l.* in 1894. Two pensions of over 100*l.* were granted during the year, one 210*l.* to Colonel John Elliott, C.B., C.M.G., late Inspector-General of Police; the other, 192*l.* to Sir W. Brandford Griffith, K.C.M.G., late Governor of the Gold Coast, that being the amount of the contribution to his pension due by this Colony.

Foreign Consuls.

23. No change took place under this head. Italy and Belgium are still unrepresented.

Population and Vital Statistics.

24. In the report for 1894, under population, paragraph 30, the question of dealing with the surplus population by fostering emigration to the neighbouring Colonies was alluded to. As a preliminary step at the request of the Legislature a committee of gentlemen, with Mr. J. R. Bovell, F.L.S., Superintendent of Dodds Reformatory and curator of the Agricultural Station, as chairman, was appointed to visit the Islands of Trinidad, Tobago, Dominica, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent, and ascertain certain specific and general information with regard to the suitability of those places as fields for colonization and settlement by emigrants from this Island. The report of the Committee, as well as that of the General Commission on Emigration, was presented to the Legislature and published, and the proposals which the Executive have decided to submit on the subject are now under consideration and will be included in the Report for 1896.

25. There was a great improvement in the general health of the Island in 1895 as compared with 1894, the cause of which was

dealt with in the Report for that year. The first half of the year was affected by the continuance of the long drought, but in August the rain came, and though there were outbreaks of typhoid fever in several places, the medical report shows that the year on the whole was a healthy one, and there was a very marked diminution of enteric and bowel diseases.

American food stuffs were cheap, and after the rains the provision gardens supplied the labouring population with abundance of native foods. This improvement in the general health is shown by the decrease in the death rate and in the expenditure of the parochial almshouses under both outdoor and indoor relief.

Death Rate of Barbados.

Decade.	Rate per 1,000.
1861–1870 - - -	21·54
1871–1880 - - -	33·66
1881–1890 - - -	27·01
1891–1894 - - -	29·71
One year 1894* - - -	34·40
One year 1895 - - -	24·40

* *See* Report for 1894.

Savings Bank.

26. The returns for the past six years show :—

Year.	No. of Depositors.	Amount at Credit.	Deposits during the Year.	Withdrawals during the Year.	Invested Funds.
		£	£	£	£
1890 - - -	9,716	134,521	106,229	100,773	138,906
1891 - - -	9,936	123,284	89,565	94,293	128,840
1892 - - -	10,420	130,419	80,000	80,013	136,778
1893 - - -	10,944	152,924	101,042	82,196	159,924
1894 - - -	11,322	157,969	93,810	92,974	165,158
1895 - - -	11,289	180,584	104,186	85,972	188,379

The bank allows interest at 3 per cent.; the maximum limit to depositors is 300*l.* and the minimum is one shilling.

Friendly Societies.

27. There were 157 societies on the register on the 31st December 1895; two were registered during the last half year, but two were also struck off.

Ecclesiastical.

28. The cost of this establishment remains the same, 10,352*l.*, the grant to denomination being 700*l.* to the Wesleyans, 400*l.* to he Moravians, and 50*l.* to the Roman Catholics.

BARBADOS.
1895.

Education.

29. The total expenditure under this head amounted to 16,161*l.* as against 16,750*l.* in 1894. There was a decrease, however, in 1895, for elementary education, of 83*l.*, one school less than in 1894. The amount spent on elementary education in 1895 was 10,414*l.*

The average attendance of scholars was 14,442 out of a total on the rolls of 27,315 (or very little more than 50 per cent.). Education is not compulsory, but more than 75 per cent. of the children in the island attend school.

The number and standard of the higher and second grade schools were fairly maintained:—

Boys:	Harrison College - - -	135
	Lodge School - - -	57
	Combermere School - - -	121
Girls:	Queen's College - - -	130

Twenty-six girls passed the Cambridge local examination, six with honours.

The Alexandra Girls' School in Speightstown, established in 1894, is progressing very satisfactorily.

Codrington college (affiliated to Durham University). The number of students at the college was 13. Owing to the depression which affected the estates on which the upkeep of the institution mainly depends, the assistant to the principal was withdrawn. Few places are better worth visiting than this beautiful replica of one of the ancient colleges at the English universities.

Imports and Exports.

30. The total imports of the Colony during 1895 amounted to 956,921*l.*, of which 391,434*l.* came from the United Kingdom, 184,154*l.* from British Colonies and 381,333*l.* from foreign countries.

A comparison with the average of the previous five years 1890–94 shows:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	
1890 - - -	1,193,724	508,698	213,256	471,770
1891 - - -	1,067,617	432,637	207,186	427,794
1892 - - -	1,081,572	469,318	195,855	416,399
1893 - - -	1,372,537	583,086	254,404	535,047
1894 - - -	1,279,335	507,534	227,514	544,287
Average for 5 years 1890–94 - -	1,198,957	500,254	219,643	479,059
1895 - - -	956,921	391,434	184,154	381,333
Below the average	242,036	108,820	35,489	97,726
Below 1894 - -	322,414	116,100	43,360	162,954

31. In April a change was made in the tariff, by which the duties on certain articles which had been reduced in 1891 in order to meet the requirements of the McKinley tariff (by which the Customs lost annually 12,700*l.*) were placed at their original rates before 1891, in order to provide for the increased charge on the general revenue for the interest and sinking fund, amounting to 16,875*l.* of the new waterworks loan. The principal articles affected by the change were bread and crackers, cheese, corn meal, corn or maize, flour, lard, meat, salted or pickled, mules value 12*l.* 10*s.* and upwards, and mules under value 12*l.* 10*s.*, petroleum, pitch, pine wood, staves and shooks, bran, candles, oil, fish, dried and pickled, brandy, sugar, yeast, cake, and baking-powders, paper, molasses, beef and pork preserved in cans, beef, including tongues.

The estimated increase in the receipts from these items was 9,000*l.*, and this was fairly realised.

32. The falling off in imports from the United Kingdom during 1895 compared with 1894 occurs in—

	£
Raw material - - - -	6,226
Bullion - - - -	2,784
Live stock, foods, &c. - - - -	23,661
Manufactured material - - -	83,428
Or a total falling off of - -	116,099

Under British Colonies there is a falling off in—

	£
Live stock and foods, &c. - -	19,738
Manufactured material - -	5,998
Raw material - - -	15,241
Bullion - - - -	2,384
Or a total falling off of -	43,361

Under foreign countries there was a decrease in—

	£
Live stock and food - -	117,379
Manufactured material - -	20,109
Raw material - - - -	25,889
Total - - - -	163,377
While there was an importation of bullion, not found in 1894, of - -	425
Giving a total falling off of -	162,952

These figures show a total diminution of British trade to the amount of 159,460*l.*, also a diminution of 162,953*l.* with foreign countries.

33. *Food Stuffs.*—The total value of the principal articles of food consumption, other than liquor and tobacco, amounted in

BARBADOS.
1895.

1894 to 428,403*l.*, and in 1895 to 382,826*l.* Flour was the same in price in 1895 as in 1894, at 18*s.* per barrel (freight included), and this import decreased from 90,986 barrels in 1894, value 81,887*l.*, to 62,986 barrels, value 56,687*l.*, in 1895. There was a decrease in the value of bread and biscuits of 1*s.* per 100 lbs. and a decrease in the quantity imported. The amounts imported were in 1894, 6,225,924 lbs., value 34,243*l.*; in 1895, 6,068,104 lbs., value 30,341*l.*

The falling off in the importation of foreign food stuffs was due to the increase in the supply of native grown provisions, sweet-potatoes, yams, &c., after the rains in August, the previous drought having driven the labouring population to depend entirely on imported necessaries of life. It is fortunate, as I remarked in the Report on 1894, that the price of these commodities were unusually low.

The imports of bacon, beef, and pork, show a decrease for 1895 of 287,098 lbs., value 5,014*l.*

In salted fish there was an increased importation of 1,168*l.* in value, and in pickled fish, although 1,320 barrels less were imported, the value having risen from 12*s.* 6*d.* to 17*s.* 6*d.* per barrel accounts for an increase of 618*l.*

There was a decrease of corn and maize of 5,259,459 lbs., value 28,329*l*, principally for stock, price falling from 8*s.* per 100 lbs. in 1894 to 5*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lbs. in 1895.

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£
1894 - -	11,092,245	44,369
1895 - -	5,832,786	16,040

Hay and Straw.

	£
1894 - - - -	8,666
1895 - - - -	1,777

This decrease is also due to the change from the drought of 1894 and the first half of 1895.

Liquors.—The total value of liquor imported was in 1894 30,677*l.*; in 1895 22,188*l.*

Tobacco (all kinds).—Total quantity imported—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£
1894 - -	181,761	9,125
1895 - -	171,684	8,367

Exports.

34. The total value of the exports from the Colony in 1895 was 587,298*l.*, of which 394,591*l.* was the produce or manufacture of the Island, and 192,707*l.* British, Foreign, and other Colonial produce and manufactures.

A comparison of the six years from 1890 to 1895 inclusive shows:—

Year.	Produce or Manufactures of the Colony.	British, Foreign, &c.	Total.
	£	£	£
1890 - - - - -	1,040,720	163,670	1,204,390
1891 - - - - -	621,014	193,241	814,255
1892 - - - - -	751,924	174,649	926,573
1893 - - - - -	1,030,513	212,570	1,243,083
1894 - - - - -	772,003	212,509	984,512
Average for five years -	843,235	191,327	1,034,562
1895 - - - - -	394,591	192,707	587,298
Below the average -	448,644	Above average 1,380	447,264
Below 1894 - -	377,412	19,802	397,214

The Produce or Manufacture of the Island.

35. The exports of sugar for the years 1891 to 1895 were:—

Year.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Total.	Value.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	£
1891 - - -	48,186	2,361	50,547	509,285
1892 - - -	56,619	2,630	59,249	605,640
1893 - - -	63,517	3,640	67,157	851,780
1894 - - -	62,175	3,047	65,222	616,253
1895 - - -	34,792	1,659	36,451	282,092

It may be of use to show again the direction of this trade during the above period as shown by the shipments of sugar and molasses to the various markets of the world.

Sugar.

Year.	United Kingdom.		British Possessions and British North America.		United States.		Foreign Countries.		Export Value.
	Muscovado.	Dry.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Muscovado.	Dry.	Per Ton.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	£ s. d.
1891 - - -	3,156	2,357	1,521	4	42,688	Nil	22	Nil	10 0 0
1892 - - -	7,940	2,213	1,448	Nil	47,220	417	110	N	10 0 0
1893 - - -	5,057	3,510	1,682	29	56,092	97	341	Nil	12 10 0
1894 - - -	7,110	3,045	4,879	2	50,125	Nil	61	Nil	9 5 0
1895 - - -	5,405	1,658	783	1	28,557	Nil	47	Nil	7 10 0

BARBADOS.
1895.

Molasses.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Possessions and British North America.	United States.	Other Foreign Countries.	Export Value.
	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	£ s. d.
1891 - - -	103	28.058	2,720	1,417	3 0 0
1892 - - -	291	35,353	6,572	752	3 0 0
1893 - - -	385	28,757	13,880	352	4 0 0
1894 - - -	1,619	34,125	7,649	165	3 5 0
1895 - - -	362	25,785	1,665	107	3 10 0

36. The export in rum has decreased from 12,962 gallons in 1894 to 8,877 gallons in 1895, showing a falling off of 4,085 gallons. The rum made in the Island and exported in 1895 was distributed as follows as compared with 1894:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British West Indies.	British North America.	United States.	Foreign West Indies.	Total.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
1894 - - -	2,737	4,761	2,219	1,182	2,063	12,962
1895 - - -	103	7,937	—	—	817	8,877

The remarkable falling off in the export of rum to the United Kingdom from 2,737 gallons in 1894 to 103 gallons in 1895 is again in accord with the remarks of the Chancellor of the Exchequer in presenting the Budget to the House of Commons recently. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, speaking of the Customs receipts says " The taste for rum, except in the most extraordinary " cold weather, appears to be absolutely declining in England. " People prefer as they do in wine what I may call a clearer and " lighter spirit and the receipts from the produce of rum have " materially declined." It will be seen on referring to the report for 1894 that the same coincidence is pointed out in that year. Owing to the prevailing epidemic of influenza the importation of rum into England had very largely increased and accounted for a sudden increase in respect of that article. Since the disappearance of the disease, and owing to an especially mild year in England, the consumption of the spirit has again decreased.

37. The other products of the Island were hides, value 578*l.*, British West Indies took 460*l*; ice, 333 tons, value 666*l.*, all went to British West Indies; building lime, 1,922*l.*, to British West Indies, 427*l.* to Foreign West Indies; vegetables (raw) 5,255*l.*, British Guiana alone took 3,822*l.* and the other British West

Barbados. 1895.

Indies 1,363*l.*; whale oil, 189 barrels, value 284*l.*, Great Britain took the greater portion, 162 barrels, value 243*l.*; the remainder went to British West Indies and British Guiana.

38. Exports other than the produce of the Colony, 1895:—

—	British West Indies and British Guiana and United Kingdom.	Foreign West Indies, United States, &c.
	£	£
Animals	6,603	2,579
Provisions	88,808	18,505
Liquors	7,014	71
Tobacco	1,046	—
Clothing, &c.	28,636	885
Household requisites (soap, candles, petroleum, and matches).	2,636	333
Hardware	207	22
Old metal	2,094	—
Lumber, white pine-pitch pine, and spruce	1,172	890
Staves, hoops, shingles, &c.	2,728	73
Cement, lime, and bricks	682	135
Grain and fodder	6,843	765
Manures	6,184	600
Bullion (all to Great Britain)	788	—
Whale oil	5	5,801
Miscellaneous	4,897	1,705
Totals	160,343	32,364

39. Analysing, as in 1894, the whole trade of Barbados with other countries, the order in which they come, measured by amount of business done in 1895, was as follows:—

Inward Trade, Total Imports, 956,921*l*

		£
	United Kingdom	391,434
	United States of America	336,558
	British North America	80,471
	British West Indies*	68,856
Changed places on the List	India	34,700
	South America	18,498
	Foreign West Indies†	14,583
	Various Foreign (aggregate)	4,794
	Various British	126
	Canary and Cape Verde Islands	1,840
	Whale oil from whaling ships	5,061
	Total	956,921

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* British Guiana, 24,591*l.*

† Dutch Guiana, 2,699*l.*

Outward Trade, Total Exports 587,298l.

	£
United States of America	226,096
British West Indies*	167,142
British North America	95,849
United Kingdom	69,760
Foreign West Indies†	25,896
French Guiana	1,273
South America (Brazil)	1,079
Various foreign (aggregate)	203
Total	587,298

40. Finally, taking the countries in the order of the total business, both inward and outward, we have a total of 1,544,219*l.*, viz. :—

		£
	United States	562,653
	United Kingdom	461,194
Changed places on the List	British West Indies	235,928
	British North America	176,321
	Foreign West Indies	40,479
Changed places on the List	India	34,700
	South America	19,577
	Canary and Cape Verde Islands	1,840
	French Guiana	1,273
	Various foreign (aggregate)	4,997
	Various British	126
	Value of whale oil	5,061
	Total	1,544,219

Shipping.

41. The total number arriving and clearing and which did business with the Customs House, as distinguished from those merely calling and leaving, without discharging or taking in cargo were :—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1894 - - -	850	118,913	337	495,928	1,187	614,841
1895 - - -	739	84,938	329	4,	1,068	584,706

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* British Guiana, 44,683*l.*

† Dutch Guiana, 8,773.

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1894 - - -	852	121,477	337	496,094	1,189	617,571
1895 - - -	736	84,777	330	500,418	1,066	585,195

Showing a total decrease in tonnage, due to the diminished sugar export last year; the gradual displacement of the sailing ship by the steamer continues.

Of the 729 sailing vessels (84,938 tons) which entered, 634 (with an aggregate of 51,593 tons) were British; and of the 105 foreign vessels (33,345 tons) 10 (3,622 tons) were from Great Britain.

Of the 329 steamers (499,768 tons) 117 (203,705 tons) came from Great Britain and 147 (203,533 tons) came from British ports in North America or the West Indies.

42. TOTAL NUMBER of VESSELS calling at the port (including the above which had trade with the island).

Year.	Total No. of Ships.	Tonnage.	Trading Steamers.	Tonnage.
1890 - - -	2,475	1,177,169	432	571,989
1891 - - -	2,089	1,061,789	352	572,780
1892 - - -	2,040	1,076,956	411	597,511
1893 - - -	2,079	1,084,890	386	538,195
1894 - - -	1,808	910,669	403	562,266
1895 - - -	1,714	916,766	405	608,821

43. These returns, when analysed, give the following numbers of vessels belonging to the several countries named. There are a few from other countries which are not noticed.

Nationality.	1890.		1891.		1892.		1893.		1894.		1895.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
British - -	1,656	759,135	1,367	658,645	1,338	681,281	1,402	722,635	1,264	675,258	1,173	698,306
American - -	220	141,742	211	170,330	206	167,333	170	84,406	125	60,155	108	48,467
Norwegian - -	311	148,955	261	131,538	283	131,961	256	125,325	205	87,531	197	92,738
Swedish - -	56	21,683	48	18,485	54	24,133	44	19,662	34	12,884	38	13,835
Italian - -	51	32,621	35	20,264	34	18,970	58	38,453	27	16,233	40	21,034
German - -	57	27,989	44	25,438	46	25,756	45	20,032	36	22,000	33	16,700
French - -	27	10,189	32	12,165	27	12,429	25	10,078	30	10,648	15	4,558
Dutch -	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	3,466	31	3,598	55	5,275

These figures include vessels of all descriptions. The return shows a falling off in number and tonnage of vessels of all the above nationalities excepting Italian and Dutch, which last shows an increase of 24 for 1895 over 1895.

Particulars of the principal steamer lines trading here were given in the Report for 1894.

Gaols and Prisoners.

44. The total cost of the prison in 1895 was 5,067*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.* as against 4,746*l.* 16*s.* 7*d.* in 1894.

Year.	Adults.		Juveniles.		Total.	Daily Average.	Annual Cost per Head.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.			
							£ s. d.
1894 - - -	1,852	1,824	77	10	3,763	356	13 6 8
1895 - - -	2,334	1,942	65	8	4,349	422	12 0 1

There were 1,814 punishments in 1895, as against 1,122 in 1894. During 1895, 10 prisoners were released on ticket-of-leave under the mark system.

Industrial Labour.

	£	s.	d.
45. The estimated value of labour performed by male labour outside the prison, quarrying stone and building, was - - - -	369	15	4
Inside the prison, tailors' shop and shoemakers -	81	16	8
„ „ blacksmiths and tinsmiths -	24	19	4
„ „ bakery - -	853	18	5
„ „ carpenters and painters -	23	6	8
„ „ masons - -	89	10	8
Total - -	1,443	7	1

	£	s.	d.
Female labour, fibre making - -	57	17	8
„ „ laundry - - -	172	13	4
Total - -	230	11	0

Reformatory.

46.—

Admissions	30
Discharges	34
Deaths	0
Daily average	120
Expenditure :—	£
1895	1,684
1894	1,832

The boys were occupied in planting 24½ acres for the crop of 1896, and in cultivating the new varieties of canes for the demands from planters found it necessary to substitute them for the Bourbon variety, which has been grown here successfully for many years, but which has shown special liability to the attacks of the fungus disease. A recreation ground was also laid out. This part of reformatory training has not been sufficiently considered here. There is a growing need for more use being made of this institution, for the number of juvenile criminals is fast increasing. The present reformatory is capable of taking in a considerably larger number than it has now, but the funds for effecting this are not at present available.

Hospitals and Poor Relief.

47. The total expenditure under this head was :—

—	1895.	1894.
	£	£
(1.) Government Institutions :		
General Hospital	7,409	6,433
Lunatic Asylum	5,427	5,584
Leper Asylum	2,700	2,783
Totals	15,536	14,800
(2.) Parochial institutions :		
Almshouses (11)	16,780	18,045
Totals	32,316	32,845

BARBADOS. 1895.

The Statistical returns give the following totals :—

Institution.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.	Daily Average.
General Hospital - -	3,452	3,216	262	220
Lunatic Asylum - -	103	45	66	316
Leper Asylum - -	13	—	15	116
Parochial Almshouses -	1,952	1,537	452	698
Totals -	5,520	4,798	795	1,350

The total number of cases treated both indoors and outdoors during the year, was as follows :—

Total number of Cases relieved or treated.

—	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Medical Relief (visited or Dispensary Cases).	Total.
General Hospital -	3,890	—	18,684	22,574
Lunatic Asylum -	734	—	—	734
Leper Asylum -	249	—	—	249
Parochial Almshouses.	3,334	4,788	12,677	20,799
Total -	8,207	4,788	31,361	44,356

Total expenditure by parochial institutions on above :—

	£
Indoor - - - - -	6,663
Outdoor - - - - -	2,925
Medical - - - - -	5,047
Miscellaneous - - -	2,148
Total -	16,783

48. The Poor Law Inspector in his report for the second half-year July to December 1895, remarks, "The local inspectors had "notice of 3,536 cases, of which 3,173 were relieved in one way "or another, and 363 (or about 10 per cent.) were rejected. The "work was on the whole done promptly and, as far as I could "judge, carefully." . . . . . "The lines on which the different "boards work are widely divergent and allowance has to be made "for this; cases which are received with open arms in some "parishes being altogether rejected under the system adopted in "other parishes."

49. This want of uniformity has long been pointed out by the Poor Law Inspector and an attempt was made this year by the Government to effect the object by submitting to the Legislature a Bill to create a central board, the members of which were to be elected by the several parishes, and only the president by the Governor. The object of this was that matters of principle which were settled by the central board should be carried out with such uniformity in detail as the circumstances of the several almshouses or parishes might permit. But the representatives of the constituencies feared that the rights and privileges of the individual vestries would be unduly interfered with, and the measure fell through.

With one or two exceptions, however, there is, as the Inspector's reports show, a gradual tendency to greater uniformity in most matters relating to poor relief, the great subject of difference being the out-door system as contrasted with indoor relief, and this is about the most important point on which there should be uniformity of principle as well as of practice.

Meteorological Observations.

50. The first half of the year was marked by the continuation of the dry weather of 1894. The total rainfall from 1st January to 31st July was 21·40 inches, of which 7·64 inches fell in January, being less than 14 inches for the following six months. The rains came in August, the rainfall for that month being 10·59 as against 2·13 for July, and they were fairly distributed over the remainder of the year. The total rainfall was 73·32 inches in 193 days, that for 1894 was 39·14 inches in 143 days. The highest rainfall was in September, 14·93 inches in 21 days. Mean barometrical pressure was 29·927 inches. The extreme range of the temperature was from 86·4° (Fahrenheit) to 70·4,° the mean ranging from 83·8° to 76·2°. There were no gales or thunderstorms doing any damage. The records are made at the Reformatory Agriculture Station, situate 210 feet above the sea level.

General.

51. As anticipated in the report for 1894, the long drought and the ravages of the fungus disease most seriously affected the canes, and the exported crop for the season 1894–95 fell to 36,451 hogsheads, or 29,036 hogsheads short of the average for the last five years.

This in its turn reduced the average imports by 242,036*l.*, while the straitened resources of the proprietors and the difficulty of raising further advances in the face of the low price of sugar prevented them in many instances from supplying their fields with the necessary quantity of manures.

52. Matters had assumed a very serious aspect for the planters, and the want of employment was showing itself in acts of lawlessness on the part of the labouring population, in some places firing canes, digging up potato fields. The police force were, however, quite able to deal with the mischief, and a number of

riotous potato stealers were sent to prison after trial by the Supreme Court.

With the August rains a change for the better came over the face of the Island, and a general improvement in everything was apparent. At the same time there was an indication of a rise in price in sugar markets, which opened the purse strings of bankers and others who had money to advance to the planters, while the labouring population found ample employment in the cane fields and in their own plots of provision gardens.

53. The unhappy war, which is still devastating the great Island of Cuba, resulted in a falling off in the export of sugar from there to America of 77,000 tons against 1,000,000 tons in the previous year, and there was a large deficiency in the estimated beet crop in Europe.

54. Both these causes have given, for a time at any rate, an upward tendency in the price of cane sugar and a corresponding impulse to the industry throughout the West Indies. Encouraged by the favourable change in the weather and price, and with the means of obtaining the necessary supplies for their estates, our planters have energetically set to work to repair their losses.

Estates which had been falling into the hands of the Receiver in Chancery were bought out. The Government Experimental Agricultural Station worked by the reformatory boys entirely was largely drawn on for those varieties of canes which the skill and care and untiring perseverance of those in charge had, by practical experience in cultivating them under every possible change of soil and treatment, determined as being less subject than others to the fatal fungus disease, and though a few individuals still cherish the old prolific Bourbon cane, now sadly prolific in fungus, the majority have replaced them by what are known as the "hardy varieties," "Caledonian Queen," "Bourke," "transparent," and others.

Too much importance cannot be given to the result of the discovery made some years ago at this station of propagating varieties of canes by seedlings. Had we in this emergency been obliged to send to other countries for supplies of new varieties of canes instead of turning to our own nurseries the result would have been very different—in fact, disastrous.

55. It is not of course to be expected that the Island will recover itself in 1896. The rains were too late, the supplies of manure too short, the full knowledge of the new varieties of canes, each of which has some special peculiarity of its own to be studied, too imperfect to ensure a full crop; but that we shall be able to report a very great and substantial improvement on 1895 when it comes to the report for 1896 I have no doubt whatever.

G. RUTHVEN LE HUNTE,
Colonial Secretary.

27th May 1896.

COLONIAL REPORTS.—ANNUAL.

No. 199.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1896.

(For Report for 1895 *see* No. 173.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1897.

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1897.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, Reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
171	Gibraltar	1895
172	Malta	"
173	Barbados	"
174	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
175	Falkland Islands	"
176	St. Helena	"
177	Bahamas	"
178	Hong Kong	"
179	Windward Islands	"
180	Labuan	"
181	Trinidad and Tobago	"
182	Seychelles	"
183	Mauritius and Rodrigues	1894 and 1895
184	British Honduras	1895
185	Lagos	"
186	Basutoland	1895-96
187	Ceylon	1895
188	British Guiana	1895-96
189	Gold Coast	1895
190	Jamaica	1895-6
191	Canada	1895
192	Bermuda	1896
193	Bahamas	"
194	Zululand	"
195	Gambia	"
196	Malta	"
197	British New Guinea	1895-96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands	1896

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.

No. 199.

BARBADOS.
1896.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1895, *see* No. 173.)

Acting Governor LE HUNTE to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Barbados,
May 26, 1897.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith the Blue Book of this Colony, together with the report thereon for 1896.

I have, &c.
G. RUTHVEN LE HUNTE.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1896.

Taxation.

1. The following changes were made under this head:—

(*a.*) *Import Duties.*—On the 23rd of June an addition of 20 per cent. on the customs duties was imposed to meet the requirements of the expenditure. The additional amount received by the increase was 7,470*l.* A completely revised tariff was passed in November to come into operation on the 1st of January 1897 (the tariff given in the Blue Book is that one). The new tariff is estimated to produce an increase of 20,000*l.* on the customs receipts for 1895 (74,000*l.*).

(*b.*) *Excise.*—On the 23rd of June also the excise duty on rum manufactured and consumed in the Island was raised from 1*s.* 10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon. The additional amount received from the increased rate was 3,400*l.*

All the other items of taxation remained unchanged; they are given in detail in the Blue Book and in the Blue Book Report for 1894.

BARBADOS.
1896.

Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

	£
2. The estimated revenue from all sources for 1896 was - - - - -	168,352
The receipts from all sources for the year were 185,532*l.*; but this includes 8,500*l.* advanced from the funds of the Waterworks Department leaving the nett amount received from revenue proper, - - - -	177,032
above the estimate.	or 8,680

There was, however, an anticipated deficit on the estimates of 12,816*l.*, and to meet this in the month of June the Customs tariff was raised by the addition of 20 per cent. on the duties, and the Excise by the increase of the duty from 1*s.* 10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon; the result being an increase in the receipts under both heads of 15,870*l.*

Up to the 31st May the revenue receipts (exclusive of 2,000*l.* borrowed from the Waterworks Department) were 76,917*l.* as against 64,007*l.* for the same period in 1895, the principal increase being under Customs, 6,766*l.*

Up to the 31st of December the Customs receipts were 104,191*l.* as against 82,529*l.* for 1895, and eliminating the additional amount which was due to the increase, 20 per cent., viz., 7,470*l.*, it leaves a nett balance of 14,192*l.* in favour of the Customs receipts for 1896 over those for 1895. This would have been even larger had it not been that a revised tariff was passed in November to come into force on the 1st of January 1897 and holders of articles in bond which would pay a lighter duty under the new tariff naturally held them back as far as possible.

The general increase in the revenue was consequent on the increase in the output of sugar during the year 1896, the export being 49,400 tons against 36,451 tons in 1895, and the fair prospect of still further improvement as far as production goes in 1897. The prospect of improvement in price was unfortunately not so good.

The only item of revenue which shows a continued and marked falling off is Excise, the receipts being 1,540*l.* below the estimate in spite of the increased rate of duty in June, which produced 3,400*l.* If this be deducted from the total receipts for the year under this head, 27,460*l.*, it gives 24,060*l.* against 25,666*l.* for 1895, although wages were more plentiful in 1896 than 1895. It is certain that the consumption of alcoholic liquor by the working classes here is decreasing, and credit must be given to the work of the religious and temperance societies here.

BARBADOS.
1896.

3. The following are the receipts under the principal heads of revenue for the past six years.

—	1891.	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs - - -	99,779	92,340	94,480	94,244	82,529	104,191
Port and harbour - -	4,686	4,299	4,614	4,234	3,239	3,787
Excise - - -	25,298	28,919	32,553	29,422	25,666	27,461
Licenses - - -	7,066	6,249	6,169	6,473	6,012	5,569
Police tax - - -	3,644	6,331	3,899	3,619	3,603	3,880
Fees and fines and fees of office	5,772	6,049	5,758	5,624	4,671	5,547
Post Office - - -	5,832	7,909	6,020	6,732	6,594	7,218
Miscellaneous - -	11,828	10.567	8,237	10,276	7,734	9,052
Waterworks - - -	—	—	—	—	6,267	10,327
Totals - -	163,905	162,663	161,730	160,624	146,315	177,032
Temporary advance from Waterworks Loan Fund - - -						8,500
						185,532

Expenditure.

	£
4. The total expenditure was estimated at -	181,168
The actual expenditure was - -	184,020

An apparent increase of 32,000*l.* over 1895. This, however, was due for the greater part to the salaries and other amounts for December 1895 being paid in January 1896; and as those for December 1896 were paid in that month and included in their own year the apparent expenditure for 1896 really covered 13 months instead of 12.

The Waterworks Department Expenditure for 1896 (exclusive of construction, which is paid by loan) appears to be 19,801*l.* over that for 1895. This is accounted for partly by the fact that the Government only took over the waterworks in April 1895. The first half year's interest and sinking fund on the loan (375,000*l.*) amounting to 8,437*l.* 10*s.* was paid out of the premium received on the issue of the inscribed stock but does not appear under the head of expenditure in the published accounts for 1895 as it properly should have done. It is referred to and explained by the Auditor-General in the financial statement for 1896. The result of this is that the expenditure of the department shows an undue increase for 1896 over 1895 which should have included the 8,437*l.*, making the real increase 11,364*l.* (19,801*l.* against 12,654*l.*) for two half-years' interest and sinking fund instead of one, and for the extra period of current cost of maintenance and departmental expenses.

Of the total expenditure for the year, 184,020*l.*, 81,495*l.* came under the head of ordinary and fixed expenditure, and 23,525*l.* under contingent expenditure.

Assets and Liabilities.

5. The total liabilities on the 31st of December (exclusive of loans which are treated under the head of public debt) were 9,956*l.*, of which 8,500*l.* was an advance from the Waterworks Loan Fund to the general revenue under the authority of Act No. 4 and is repayable at any time that it is required for the waterworks construction.

The assets were 7,428*l.*

Public Debt.

6. The public debt of the Colony on the 31st of December 1896 amounted to 405 100*l.*; 375 000*l.* for Waterworks Loan (1894) and 30,100*l.* for Public Works (1881).

The amounts to the credit of the sinking funds were respectively, Waterworks Loan 5,365*l.* and Public Works Loan 14,750*l.*

Military Expenditure.

7. The return of military expenditure shows that out of a total of 93,762*l.* spent by the Imperial Government on the garrisons of Barbados and St. Lucia, 62,508*l.* was spent on Barbados, about two thirds of which represents the amount of money circulated in the Colony by the presence of the troops here: all of which will be lost to the Island upon their removal to St. Lucia.

Public Works.

8. No new work of any importance was undertaken during the year out of general revenue. The blasting and dredging of the Careenage was continued, to improve its utility for berthing larger vessels.

The total expenditure for the various works and repairs amounted to 4,762*l.*

The construction and extension to the rural districts of the waterworks has progressed satisfactorily under the Waterworks Department. An important reservoir at "Hanson" is practically complete and another at Fort George commenced. Filter beds were laid down in Cole's Cave Gully. From the commencement of the works by the Government in 1895 up to the 31st of December 1896 45 miles of pipes have been laid and 210 standpipes brought under supply in the rural districts.

The total expenditure from the Waterworks Loan, including stores up to the 31st of December, was 35,206*l.*

Legislation.

9. Fifty-one Acts were passed in 1896. Only three of these require any special remark in this report; they were for the most part amendments to existing laws.

No. 4 authorised the Government to draw a temporary advance not exceeding 18,000*l.*, for purposes of the general revenue, from moneys lying to the credit of the Waterworks Construction Account, but not immediately required.

No. 19 is an important Act, as it provides for prospective retrenchment in nearly every department of the Civil Service of the Colony from the Governor down. The reduction of salary, or abolition of offices, in some cases, will take effect as the present office becomes vacant. The total amount by which the establishments will be reduced when the Act is in full operation is 7,241*l.*

No. 34 enacts the revised tariff now in force.

Political Franchise.

10. The total number of electors registered was 2,341. There is nothing special to report under this head or under that of councils and assemblies.

Establishments.

11. The Colonial Secretary was absent on leave from July to November, during which time Mr. E. T. Grannum, Auditor-General, acted as Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Bailey as Auditor-General.

Pensions.

12. The total amount of the pension list was 3,103*l.*, against 2,768*l.* for 1895. There were no additions or reductions from the pension list of amounts of 100*l.* or upwards.

Foreign Consuls.

13. No alteration under this head.

Population and Vital Statistics.

14. The general health of the island was good during the year. Rain was plentiful and native products—yams, sweet potatoes, &c. abundant. 7,036 baptisms were registered and 4,937 burials. The birth rate was 38·6 per 1,000 of the population, and the death rate 27·1. This is below the average of the last five years, even taking into account the abnormally high rate in 1894 (34·40).

15. In the report for 1895 under this head, par. 24, the report of the Emigration Commission is referred to, and it was stated the recommendations which the Executive might decide to submit to

the Legislature which were then under consideration would be mentioned in this year's report. They are as follows :—

(1.) That a central emigration office be established in Barbados through which, or under whose supervision, the whole business of emigration shall pass, whether assisted by the Government or in the hands of private emigration agents.

(2.) That branch agencies be established in such islands as may be found advisable for carrying out the business of finding employment for labourers, or settlements of emigrants on lands, to work under and in connexion with the central department.

(3.) That assistance be rendered by the Government to certain classes of persons desirous or willing to emigrate under the conditions which may be arranged through the central office and its agents.

(4.) That where emigrants are enabled to acquire lands with Government assistance, arrangements are to be made for securing to the Government the repayment of a portion of the outlay involved.

(5.) That improved steam communication should be obtained between this island and the islands to which the emigrants from here are sent.

(6.) That facilities for remitting money by the emigrants to their relations or dependants here be afforded them.

The estimated cost of carrying out the scheme will be :—

	£
1. Cost of Emigration Department in Barbados -	400
2. Agencies abroad - - - -	600
3. Assistance to emigrants - - -	2,800
4. Subsidy to steam communication - -	300
Total - -	4,100

The whole of which, less a sum of 950*l.* contributed by the parochial vestries for assistance to emigrants, would have to be borne by the general revenue.

16. The Legislature was asked to vote 200*l.* for the salary for the head of the Emigration Department, but this necessary initial step met with opposition on the ground that it was unnecessary and not desired by the people, and the resolution, after being passed with difficulty in the House of Assembly, was not even seconded in the Legislative Council. For the time (*i.e.*, while labour is plentiful and food cheap and abundant) therefore the proposed scheme is in abeyance. It is hoped, however, that under more favourable circumstances this may receive better consideration, for it is a safeguard against what may become a very serious contingency should hard times and bad years deprive the bulk of the working population of employment, in which case, as very nearly happened in 1894, the Government would

suddenly find themselves confronted with a problem which they will have to solve without time and, very possibly, without the means of coping with it; while a little care and forethought and experience gained by the gradual introduction of an organised system of emigration, such as was recommended, would enable them to meet the difficulty without anxiety and save the inevitable waste of money which almost invarably accompanies forced and unprepared action in public as well as private concerns.

Savings Bank.

17. The number of depositors at the end of the year was 11,661, against 11,188 for 1895; the amount to their credit 90,526*l.*, of which 89,407*l.* had been deposited during the year.

The invested funds amount to 197,305*l.*

The Bank allows interest at 3 per cent., and limits a depositor to 300*l.* maximum and 1*s.* minimum. The average percentage of depositors is 6·2 of the population, and the average amount to the credit of each depositor is about 15*l.* 15*s.* The amount paid to the depositors for interest was nearly 5,000*l.*

Friendly Societies.

18. The number of friendly societies on the register was 164, having a total of 10,490 members and 3,214*l.* returned as invested funds.

Ecclesiastical.

19. The annual charge on the public revenue under this head is for the Anglican Establishment 10,000*l.* and Denominational Grants 1,150*l.*

Education.

20. The annual expenditure under this head amounts, with very little variation, to a little over 16,000*l.* a year, of which about 10,000*l.* is spent on the elementary schools, of which there were 188 at work with a total average attendance of 15·017 children, 8·3 of the population. An epidemic of measles which went through the island during the year, and the large number of wet days, interfered materially with the number of attendances. The average attendance for 7 years is 16,000, or about 9 per cent. of the whole population. In England and Wales the attendance in 1895 was 14 per cent. and in British Guiana, with compulsory education, the attendance in 1895, the highest ever attained there, was less than 6 per cent. of their population.

One hundred and eighty-three schools were examined; 20,673 were present and 16,218 were examined, 5,900 premiums were awarded.

Higher Grade Schools.

Harrison College.—The numbers at the end of 1896, 150, show an increase on 1895. The preparatory form which enables parents to send their children to school at a very early age and at a reduced fee shows an increasing appreciation of this advantage on the part of the parents.

The Lodge School had an average attendance of 48, the numbers falling from 54 during the first term to 42 in the third, due partly to depression in the financial condition of the island, especially in the country, where this school is, and also to changes in the staff which for a time dislocated the work of the school.

The governing body report favourably on the whole of the Lodge School.

Combermere School maintained its average number and standard of examination.

Queen's College (girls) increased in numbers and efficiency and gained more honours in the Cambridge Local (senior and junior) Examination than any girls' school in Her Majesty's Colonies.

The head mistress pointed out the great want of some exhibitions for girls whose parents have to remove them for want of means to keep them at the college just at the time when they are most fitted for, and most require the completion of, their education.

The Alexandra School (girls) is making satisfactory progress in every way.

21. The report of the Education Commission appointed in 1894 was presented in 1896. The main recommendations of the majority are:—

(1.) The re-construction of the Central Education Board and the creation of parochial school boards for the immediate management and supervision, &c. of the schools in their parishes subject to the general control of the Central Board.

(2.) The reduction in the number of elementary schools from 188 to 166 (an average of one per square mile of the Island).

(3.) The entire abolition of the few remaining combined schools of the old type *i.e.* with scholars of both sexes and of all ages from 4 to 18 and the substitution throughout of the new combined school for each sex separately and divided into "infant" and "primary."

(4.) The present system of payment of the teachers by results, for a pass in each subject separately, is strongly condemned, and the payment by general results having regard to attendance, discipline, and efficiency of teaching as well as the number of passes in excess of the minimum required, is recommended.

(5.) The establishment of a much-needed training institution for teachers.

(6.) The establishment of an industrial school, with especial view to save the increasing semi-criminal juvenile population of Bridgetown and its suburbs.

The Commission estimates the cost of the elementary schools under the proposed revised system at 10,210*l.*, exclusive of the cost of the Departmental officers, secretary, inspectors, &c. for a total average attendance of 16,600 scholars, and at 12,640*l.* for a total average attendance of 23,550, which limit would not be attained for a long time.

The report is now being considered by the Executive and Legislature and whatever may be finally adopted will form a subject for the report on 1897.

Imports and Exports.

22. The total imports of the Colony in 1896 amount to 1,048,887*l.*, of which 467,649*l.* came from the United Kingdom, 181,644*l.* from British Colonies, and 399,554*l.* from foreign countries.

A comparison with the average of the previous five years 1891–95 shows:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£
1891 - - -	1,067,617	432,637	207,186	427,794
1892 - - -	1,081,572	469,318	195,855	416,399
1893 - - -	1,372,537	583,086	254,404	535,047
1894 - - -	1,279,335	507,534	227,514	544,287
1895 - - -	956,921	391,434	184,154	381,333
Average for 5 years -	1,151,596	476,802	213,823	460,972
1896 - - -	1,048,887	467,649	181,644	399,554
Below the average -	102,709	9,153	32,179	61,418
Above 1895 - -	91,966	76,215	—	18,221
Below 1895 - -	—	—	2,510	—

Although below the average of the former years, 1896 shows an improvement on 1895 except in the trade from other British Colonies.

23. The following table shows a comparison between the values of the import trade in 1895 and 1896 under the four principal

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classifications of articles imported from the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and foreign countries respectively:—

—	United Kingdom.		British Colonies.		Foreign Countries.		Total.	
	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.	1895.	1896.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1. Live animals, food, drink, and narcotics.	99,277	94,514	142,640	131,313	295,076	279,569	536,993	505,396
2. Raw materials - -	23,331	16,887	22,483	29,021	35,231	54,068	81,045	99,976
3. Manufactured articles:								
(*a.*) Textile - -	122,106	166,545	995	1,204	2,071	2,925	125,172	170,674
(*b.*) Metal - -	32,305	35,998	1,301	1,403	4,705	10,778	38,301	48,179
(*c.*) Other - -	114,409	151,875	16,138	14,958	43,824	48,424	174,381	215,257
Total - -	268,820	354,418	18,434	17,565	50,600	62,127	337,845	434,110
4. Coin and bullion - -	6	1,830	597	3,746	425	3,829	1,028	9,405
Total imports -	391,434	467,649	184,154	181,645	381,332	399,593	956,920	1,048,887

24. As has already been stated in paragraph 1 (*a*) of this report 20 per cent. was added in June to the import tariff, which produced 7,470*l.* additional customs duties.

In April 1895 a change in the tariff secured nearly 9,000*l.* additional for the year, so that if the business of the two years is to be fairly compared both these additions should properly be eliminated and the comparison made on the basis of the tariff in force immediately before April 1895. This would have given a nett result of import duties in 1895 say 66,000*l.* against 87,000*l.* in 1896, or 21,000*l.* in favour of the latter year.

The new tariff passed in November 1896 came into operation on the 1st of January 1897. Until, as is much to be desired, the tariff can be left alone for some time it will be very difficult to compare the returns from customs duties for one year with another. But in this Colony the administration has at the present time practically only two sources of revenue under its control, viz., import tariff and the excise, to turn to when financial exigencies compel a recourse to additional taxation.

25. The favourable season for the growth of native food products was felt in the decreased imports of foreign food-stuffs with a corresponding increase in articles of clothing, &c., and the better prospects of a good crop of sugar is immediately shown by the increase of manures and fertilisers for its cultivation.

An inspection of the Customs returns shows a material increase in the following articles:—

Carriages and vehicles of pleasure increase in value 3,686*l.*, which marks the first serious invasion of the bicycle. Nearly all of them came from America, the imports from there under this head rising from 1,051*l.* in 1895 to 3,991*l.* in 1896.

Coal (for steamers principally), 16,168*l.*, against 12,440*l.* in 1895.

Coffee, 315,570 lbs., against 218,618 lbs. in 1895.

Cotton manufactures, 79,230*l.*, against 52,473*l.* in 1895.

Fish, dried, &c., 87,656 qtls. (at 18*s.* per qtl.), against 77,930 qtls. (at 15*s.* per qtl.) in 1895.

Hats and bonnets, 5,961*l.*, against 3,923*l.*

Iron and steel, 14,919*l.*, against 10,028*l.*, due principally to the extension of the waterworks.

Leather and its manufactures, 23,944*l.*, against 16,330*l.* for 1895.

Manures and fertilisers, 90,685*l.*, against 75,833*l.*; 5,000*l.* of this difference is found in the increased quantity exported in 1896.

Kerosine oil, 12,247*l.*, against 10,823*l.*

Woollen manufactures, 44,309*l.*, against 33,322*l.*

There was a material falling off in the following articles:—

Flour fell from 62,986 brls. (at 18*s.*) to 56,510 brls. (at 20*s.*).

Grain fell from 4,059,824 lbs. to 2,690,316 lbs. (at 7*s.* per 100 lbs.).

Liquors fell from 22,187*l.*, against 20,421*l.*; 1,000*l.* of this difference is found in the decreased quantity exported in 1896.

Pork fell from 36,770*l.* to 26,766*l.*

Tobacco fell from 8,367*l.* to 6,892*l.*

Exports.

26. The total value of the exports in 1896 amounted to 758,228*l.*, of which 577,367*l.* was the produce of manufactures of the island, and 180,861*l.* other than that.

Taking the average of the preceding five years' exports:—

1896.	Produce of the Colony.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£
Below the average - -	136,642	16,274	152,916
Above 1895 - - -	182,776	—	170,930
Below 1895 - - -	—	11,846	—

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The following return shows the total export trade for the above period to its various destinations:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1891 - - -	74,605	261,765	477,884	814,255
1892 - - -	119,168	273,895	553,510	926,573
1893 - - -	141,943	319,689	781,452	1,243,083
1894 - - -	127,444	319,269	537,798	984,512
1895 - - -	69,760	262,991	254,547	587,298
1896 - - -	38,520	274,813	444,895	758,228

27. Taking the destination of the produce of the island only, which may be confined to sugar, molasses, and rum, for the same period under the above heads we get:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1891 - - -	70,285	110,248	440,481	621,014
1892 - - -	115,635	134,463	501,825	751,923
1893 - - -	127,247	142,475	760,791	1,030,513
1894 - - -	114,311	166,944	490,747	772,002
1895 - - -	64,794	107,866	221,931	394,591
1896 - - -	33,521	132,794	411,052	577,367

showing the increasing export trade with foreign countries (America), and the diminishing trade with the United Kingdom.

28. TABLE showing the TOTAL TRADE (IMPORT and EXPORT) with the UNITED KINGDOM, BRITISH COLONIES, and FOREIGN COUNTRIES from 1891 to 1896.

Year.	With the United Kingdom.			With British Colonies.			With Foreign Countries.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1891 - - -	432,637	74,605	507,242	207,186	261,765	468,951	427,795	477,884	905,679
1892 - - -	469,318	119,168	588,486	195,855	273,895	469,750	416,399	533,510	949,909
1893 - - -	391,134	141,943	533,077	184,154	319,689	503,843	381,332	781,452	1,162,784
1894 - - -	507,534	127,444	634,978	227,514	319,269	546,783	544,286	537,798	1,082,084
1895 - - -	391,435	69,760	461,195	184,153	262,991	447,144	381,332	254,547	635,879
1896 - - -	467,649	38,520	506,169	181,644	274,813	456,457	399,594	444,895	844,489

29. The export of sugar produced in the island in 1896 was 45,789 tons of muscovado and 3,610 tons of dry, against 34,792 of muscovado and 1,659 of dry in 1895; total 49,399, against 36,451 in 1895.

The estates are gradually regaining the average turn out which had been so greatly reduced by the drought of 1894–95 and the cane disease which accompanied it. The export for 1897 will show a still further satisfactory increase as far as quantity goes; the prices, however, are lower than they were, so that the purchasing value of the exports has not maintained its proper ratio to the increase in quantity.

Of the 45,789 tons of muscovado sugar, 43,857 tons went to the United States, and only 1,101 to the United Kingdom. America took 2,017 of dry sugar and England 1,592 tons. The total value of the sugar crop exported was 436,136*l.*, against 282,092*l.*, in 1885

Molasses.—36,607 puncheons were exported of a value of 122,032*l.*, of this 33,727 puncheons went to British North America and 2,575 puncheons to the United States.

Rum has practically ceased to be an export; only 3,560*l.* gallons were exported, of which British North America took 2,066; none went to the United Kingdom.

30. The inter-Colonial trade showed an increase in the following principal articles exported from here:—Butter, fish (dried), manures, oats, tobacco, and vegetables (raw); and a decrease in beef (salted, &c.), cotton manufactures, flour, liquor, pork, and rice.

31. A new item appears in the Export List for 1896, a peculiar product of the island "Manjak" or "Glance Pitch." It is a product of the nature of petroleum in a bituminous form, and when mixed with infusorial earth can be used for fuel. It is found in veins like coal seams. It has very great heating powers when ground into fine dust. Its principal drawback is its extremely low melting point, and scientists are endeavouring to find a substance with which it can be properly combined for purposes of steam fuel. The industry is still in its infancy, and if it succeeds it will be of great value to this island.

One or two shafts have been sunk in various places on the northern end of the island, and a considerable quantity, about 1,250 tons, has been extracted. Some has been used on the railway locomotives more or less successfully, and some has been used by the sugar estates to economise their expenditure on coal. 878 tons were exported in 1896, of which 571 went to the United States and 250 to the United Kingdom; its value is given at 1,756*l.* or 2*l.* per ton.

There is the indication of the presence of a large quantity of this material in the island; it remains to be seen whether it can be successfully developed. We have the great advantage of cheap

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labour, and of the presence on the same ground of the infusorial earth with which it is mixed to become marketable. There are indications also of oil-bearing rock with a large percentage of petroleum. A syndicate has been formed in America which is preparing to sink wells and exploit the industry.

There is probably some geological connexion between this Manjak and oil-bearing rock and the Pitch Lake in Trinidad.

Shipping.

32. The total number of vessels which entered and cleared was:—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1895 - -	739	84,938	329	500,418	1,068	584,356
1896 - -	798	89,430	354	542,119	1,152	631,549

British.		Foreign.		Total.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
		SAILING VESSELS.			
687	57,875	111	31,555	798	89,430
		STEAMERS.			
333	521,885	21	20,234	354	542,119

With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
		SAILING VESSELS.			
745	79,160	53	10,270	789	89,430
		STEAMERS.			
339	524,683	15	17,436	354	542,119

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Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steamers.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1895 - -	736	84,777	330	500,418	1,066	585,195
1896 - -	800	89,340	355	543,127	1,155	632,467

British.		Foreign.		Total.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
		SAILING VESSELS.			
689	57,647	111	31,693	800	89,340
		STEAMERS.			
333	521,885	22	21,242	355	543,127

With Cargoes.		In Ballast.		Total.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
		SAILING VESSELS.			
678	56,314	122	33,026	800	89,340
		STEAMERS.			
341	526,788	14	16,339	355	543,127

Gaols and Prisoners.

33. The total cost of the prison in 1896 was 4,585*l.* as against 5,067*l.* in 1895.

The total number of prisoners was 3,360 as against 4,349 in 1895, and the daily average 344 against 422.

There were 1,631 punishments, against 1,814 in 1895.

Daily percentage of sick 7·4, against 8·4.

Eleven prisoners were released on tickets of leave under the mark system.

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	£
The estimated value of labour performed by male labour outside the prison, quarrying stone, building, &c. was - - - - - - -	463
Inside—tailoring, shoemaking, blacksmiths, carpenters, masons, was - - - - -	226
Inside—baking (for prison, lunatic asylum and lazaretto) was - - - - - -	746
Female Labour.	
Beating cocoanut fibre (4,850 lbs.) - - -	53
Washing and mending clothing - - -	162
Total - - - - - -	1,650

34. A most satisfactory feature is to be noticed in the greatly reduced number of juveniles in 1896, 29, against 73 in 1895 (26 males and 3 females, against 65 males and 8 females in 1895). This is due, as regards the males, to an alteration of the law substituting corporal punishment sentences in magistrates' courts for imprisonment in the case of summary convictions of boys under 16 for ordinary petty offences. The chaplain of the prison in his report says:—"I am glad to find that, as a rule, juveniles " are no longer being committed to a convict prison, but that a " mode of punishment is resorted to far more judicious and " deterrent than sending, in some instances, mere children to " mix with notorious and hardened criminals."

Boys' Reformatory and Industrial School.

35. The total number of boys was 118; 15 under 12 years, 103 over 12 years.

The total expenditure was 1,760*l.*

The principal work done at the reformatory is the cultivation of the experimental sugar cane station, where varieties of cane are grown and tested under various kinds of treatment so as to obtain the best and most suitable kinds of canes for the planters who purchase them from the station. 62 acres were cultivated and 176 experimental plots laid down during the year. Too much importance cannot be given to the work done by this institution, under the superintendence of Mr. J. R. Bovell, F.L.S., and by the island professor of chemistry, Mr. J. P. d'Albuquerque, M.A., F.I.C., F.C.S., who, together with Mr. Bovell, analyses and reports on the results of the various experimental plots.

The blot on the present reformatory system here is the absence of a system for obtaining employment for the boys when discharged. The superintendent makes every possible effort to secure employment for them but a proper scheme has yet to be developed to meet the difficulty and disadvantage which at present exists in this direction.

There is also a meteorological station at the Reformatory, from which returns are furnished to the Meteorological Society in London and the Hydrographical Office at Washington, U.S.A.

Criminal Statistics.

36. The average number of offences and convictions for the past five years shows:—

——	Average.	1896.
Number of offences reported to the police -	11,520	11,561
Number of persons charged before magistrates.	11,915	11,504
Number of summary convictions - -	8,906	8,529
Number of convictions in superior courts -	100	99
Total - - - -	9,006	8,628

The percentage of persons convicted out of a population of, say, 186,000, gives less than five per cent.

Meteorological Observations.

37. The drought of 1894–95 passed away and rain was sufficiently plentiful throughout the year. The total rainfall was 80·41 in 228 days; the greatest number of wet days in any month was 28 in November, during which 20·41 inches of rain fell, the east was 11 days in February, with a rainfall of 2·37 inches.

Mean barometrical pressure, 29·924 inches.

Mean temperature (maximum 86°·5 minimum 70°·9), 80° Fahr.

There were no gales or thunderstorms which did any damage, and no sensible shock of earthquake.

Post and Telegraphic Statistics.

38. The interesting feature under this head is the amount of money orders sent here, principally by those who have gone to other West Indian Islands in search of employment and have been successful and are now in a position to send regular assistance to their families and relatives whom they left in this island.

Of the total amount of orders paid here, 26,000*l.* (24,438*l.* in 1895), 21,268*l.* came from the British West Indies, and a very large proportion of that was in small amounts sent by those who have emigrated to their relatives at home here.

The total amount of orders drawn in the Colony for transmission abroad was 30,716*l.* (against 27,972*l* in 1895—every year shows a marked increase), of which nearly 20,000*l.* went to the United Kingdom, 5,565*l.* to the United States, 1,293*l.* to Canada, and 3,866*l.* to the British West Indies. The bulk of the amount sent to England, America, and Canada would be in payment of accounts for articles imported here, while the amount distributed amongst the West Indies was principally assistance sent to those who had left here and were not yet maintaining themselves.

Hospitals and Poor Relief.

39. The total expenditure for the institutions was under 30,000*l.*

—	1895.	1896.
	£	£
General Hospital - - - -	7,409	6,119
Lunatic Asylum - - - -	5,427	4,857
Lazaretto - - - - -	2,700	2,480
Parochial Almshouses (11), and poor relief - - - - -	16,780	15,784
Total - -	32,316	29,240

NOTE.—These figures are taken from the Poor Law Inspector's reports; not from the Auditor-General's books, which treat accounts of one year which may be paid in the next as belonging to the year in which they were paid—not to the year in which they were incurred.

The statistical tables give:—

Institution.	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.	Daily Average.
General Hospital -	3,290	3,077	223	202
Lunatic Asylum -	103	63	39	316
Lazaretto - -	20	—	26	109
Parochial Almshouses -	1,627	1,311	385	645
Total -	5,040	4,451	673	1,272

The table showing the total number of cases relieved or treated in the Blue Book Report for 1895 (p. 22) is erroneous; it is not repeated in this report.

The expenditure of the parochial institutions is sub-divided as follows:—

	£
Indoor treatment - - - -	6,252
Outdoor relief - - - -	2,445
Medical relief - - - -	4,865
Miscellaneous - - - -	2,222
	15,784

40. The medical report show a decided improvement in the general health of the Island. "There has been a decided immunity "from bowel complaints and typhoid fever as compared with the "previous year" (Dr. J. Hutson, Acting Poor Law Inspector), and he remarks that the healthy period is due to "an improved "sanitary condition of the Island brought about both by means of "an improved water supply and also by greater attention to the "removal and abatement of nuisances." Dr. Manning says:— "The ample supply of pure water has had a marvellous effect in "stopping our annual outbreak of dysentery and intractable "diarrhoea and typhoid."

Dr. Charles Hutson, Poor Law Inspector, mentions that there are still six parishes without dispensaries. He again urges very strongly on the notice of the parochial authorities the desirability and necessity for the isolation of phthisis cases in their institutions.

There was a wide epidemic of measles this year. It appeared soon after the arrival of the King's Regiment from Halifax, N.S. in December 1895. The first case occurred in Bridgetown and spread rapidly through the Island; no parish escaped. Few deaths from it were recorded, but the numbers affected appear to have been large.

General.

41. As was hoped for in the concluding paragraph of my report for 1895, there was a substantial improvement in the year 1896. The island, favoured by seasonable weather, is recovering itself from the calamitous drought of 1894–95. If it were not for the depressing uncertainty of the future and the strain on resources already nearly exhausted by the short crops of the two previous years, owing to the present low market prices of cane sugar and molasses, the prospect would be a cheering one. The crop of 1897 bids fair to be a good one, but what price it will fetch is very uncertain.

The visit of the Royal Commissioners sent out by the Queen in 1897 to inquire into the present condition and prospects of the sugar industry in the whole West Indies, will, it is hoped, be productive of a change for the better, but it would be premature to discuss in any way the direction in which or the means by which this may be effected. It will form no doubt a subject in the report for 1897 by my successor in the office which I have had the honour and pleasure to hold for the past three years of a very interesting, if somewhat critical, stage in the life of this Colony.

G. RUTHVEN LE HUNTE,
Colonial Secretary.

Barbados, May 22, 1897.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No 231.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1897.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 199.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August 1898.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to Her Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained for a few pence from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
197	British New Guinea	1895–96
198	Turks and Caicos Islands...	1896
199	Barbados	„
200	Leeward Islands	1895
201	Trinidad and Tobago	1896
202	Gibraltar	„
203	Fiji (Trade)...	„
204	Straits Settlements...	1895
205	Do. do.	1896
206	Falkland Islands	„
207	British Honduras	„
208	Sierra Leone	„
209	Grenada	„
210	Hong Kong...	„
211	St. Lucia	„
212	St. Vincent	„
213	St. Helena	„
214	Seychelles	„
215	Mauritius	„
216	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1897
217	Fiji	1896
218	Ceylon	„
219	Lagos	„
220	Gold Coast	„
221	Labuan	„
222	British Guiana	1896–97
223	Rodrigues	1896
224	Basutoland	1896–97
225	Jamaica	„
226	Bechuanaland Protectorate	„
227	Leeward Islands	1896
228	Bermuda	1897
229	Gambia	„
230	Turks and Caicos Islands...	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.

No. 231.

BARBADOS 1897.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1896, *see* No. 199.)

GOVERNOR SIR J. S. HAY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
Barbados.
26th May 1898.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward six copies of the Annual Blue Book of the Colony, together with the Report thereon by the Colonial Secretary, for the year 1897.

I have, &c.

J. S. HAY.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1897.

TAXATION.

1. There are two alterations under this head, one contained in the Trade Amendment Act (1897; 3), which increases the sum charged to vessels, whilst loading or unloading in the Careenage, from 1*d*. to 1¼*d*. per ton per day, and the second contained in the Customs Tariff Amendment Act, 1897, exempting from duty machinery and apparatus imported for the purpose of manufacturing tobacco.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Revenue.

	£
2. The Revenue estimated for 1897 was ...	181,150
The actual Revenue was	184,706

or £3,556 in excess of estimate.

BARBADOS.
1897.

The comparative statement would appear to indicate that the Revenue for 1897, £184,706, was less than the Revenue for 1896, which appears as £185,532; but this is not true as regards actual sources of income, inasmuch as the true receipts, irrespective of loans, for 1896 were only £177,032, that is to say, £7,674 less than the receipts for 1897, the apparent Revenue having been augmented in 1896 by the borrowing of £8,500 from Waterworks Funds.

The head of Customs for 1897 shews an increase of £2,690 over that of 1896, but this is mainly due to the Customs Tariff Act of 1896, which came into operation on the 1st of January 1897.

Revenue from Excise shews an increase of £4,765, which is due to the fact that the Rum Duty Amendment Act of June 1896 only operated for six months in 1896, while it was in operation during the whole of 1897. It is also due to the better crop of 1897.

Post Office shews an increase of £830, due to the greater sale of stamps of the Jubilee die.

Interest shews an increase of £2,592, due to the fact that interest credited in 1896 to Special Receipts was credited in 1897 to the head of Interest.

Special Receipts shew a decrease of £2,546, explained as above, under Interest.

Waterworks shew a decrease of £804, due partly to a reduction of rates, and partly to there being a larger amount of uncollected rates at the end of 1897, as compared with 1896.

3. The following are the receipts under the principal heads of Revenue for the past six years :—

—	1892.	1893.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	92,340	94,480	94,244	82,529	104,191	106,880
Port and Harbour	4,299	4,614	4,234	3,239	3,787	4,235
Excise	28,919	32,553	29,422	25,666	27,461	32,226
Licenses	6,249	6,169	6,473	6,012	5,569	5,622
Police tax ...	6,331	3,899	3,619	3,603	3,880	3,893
Fees and fines and fees of office.	6,049	5,758	5,624	4,671	5,547	5,111
Post Office ...	7,909	6,020	6,732	6,594	7,218	8,048
Miscellaneous ...	10,567	8,237	10,276	7,734	9,052	9,164
Waterworks ...	—	—	—	6,267	10,327	9,522
Totals... ...	162,663	161,730	160,624	146,315	177,032	184,706
Temporary advance from Waterworks Loan Fund ...					8,500	
					185,532	

Expenditure.

	£
4. The estimated Expenditure for 1897 was ...	180,045
The actual Expenditure was	172,551

or £7,494 less than was estimated.

The Expenditure for 1897 was less than the Expenditure for 1896 by £11,469, due mainly to the reduced payments under the head of Subsidies and Grants.

The payment of subsidy to the Railway Company in 1897 was £82, against £9,000 paid in 1896, which sum of £9,000 comprised the full subsidy of £6,000 for 1896 and £3,000 arrears of subsidy for 1895.

It is also due to a greater payment of Telegraph subsidy in 1896 of £625, being arrears from 1895, as well as to other payments in 1896 of a similar nature.

The most notable variations in Expenditure are:—

Customs shew an increase of £1,226, due to the increased drawback on exportation of fish brought into operation by the Customs Tariff Act (1896; 34).

Post Office shews a decrease of £589, due to the fact that 1896 bore a portion of the cost of "conveyance of mails abroad" for 1895 as well as its own proper expenditure.

Legal Departments shew a decrease of £798, due to the fact that legal salaries to the amount of £502 due in 1895 were paid in 1896, and to other small circumstances.

Subsidies and grants shew a decrease of £10,055, explained above.

Miscellaneous shews an increase of £1,443, mainly due to the starting of the Victoria Emigration Society, the balance due on Revision of Laws, and the grant to the Roman Catholic Church.

There has been a continuous effort in all Departments to reduce expenditure in every way possible.

Thus to summarise—

	£
Revenue for 1897 was	184,706
Expenditure was	172,551

that is to say, Revenue exceeded Expenditure by £12,155—a fairly satisfactory state of things.

The final result of our account for 1897 was to shew a balance (including the balance brought forward) on the 31st of December 1897 of £14,195; but it cannot be taken that this sum was available for the ordinary necessities of the Colony, inasmuch as the liabilities of 1896, viz., the loan of £8,500 from waterworks, still had to be met, as well as other liabilities, the settlement of which had been postponed in 1896.

BARBADOS, 1897.

On the face of this statement of account, it would appear that Barbados, far from being in financial straits, is financially prosperous; but the real fact is that the sugar industry (and to which I allude later), is still being carried on, even though it may be at a loss, and even though it is eating away its capital.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

5. Assets on the 31st of December 1897 amounted to £20,307.

Liabilities amounted to £9,333, giving a balance of Assets over Liabilities of £10,974.

PUBLIC DEBT.

6. The Public Debt on the 31st of December 1897 was £409,150; being £375,000 for Waterworks Loan (1894) and £34,150 for Public Works.

The amounts to credit of the Sinking Funds were:—Waterworks Loan, £9,097, and Public Works Loan, £15,185.

MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

7. The total amount spent by the Imperial Government on the garrisons of Barbados and St. Lucia was £94,514, of which £59,549 was spent in the upkeep of the troops stationed at Barbados, and of which a large portion was circulated in Barbados.

PUBLIC WORKS.

8. No new works have been undertaken, as it has been felt necessary to exercise a strict economy, but the dredging of the Careenage and the renewal of Wharf walls have both been continued.

The total expenditure for works and repairs was £7,524.

The construction and extension of the Waterworks system has been regularly carried on, at a cost during the year of £35,088.

The gradual perfection of the Waterworks system is proving of great value to the inhabitants.

LEGISLATION.

9. Twenty-two Acts were passed in 1897, of which two were consolidations, respectively, of the Police Magistrates Acts and of the Settlement of the Poor and Bastardy Acts.

One was to provide for the commemoration of Her Majesty's Jubilee by the institution of a society for assisting the emigration of poor women; and one was to amend the Education Act. This latter Act provided, *inter alia*, that the cost of elementary education shall in no event in any year exceed £11,000, and that if in any year the sum voted on the Estimates is insufficient the Examination premium rates shall be reduced by the Education Board accordingly.

POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

10. The total number of electors on the Register was 2,208, as compared with 2,341 in 1896.

ESTABLISHMENTS.

11. During the absence of the Governor, Sir J. S. Hay, the Colonial Secretary, Mr. G. R. Le Hunte, administered the Government, such administration lasting over the period of the Jubilee.

Later on Mr. Le Hunte was transferred to the post of Colonial Secretary of Mauritius and Mr. Ralph Williams was appointed Colonial Secretary.

Mr. Haynes, the Prothonotary, retired on a pension, and Mr. W. H. Bailey, Chief Clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office, was appointed, in the terms of the Registration Office Act, 1887, to the post of Registrar, which included the duties of Prothonotary as well as certain duties of the Record Office hitherto performed in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

Mr. H. W. Collymore was appointed Chief Clerk in the Colonial Secretary's Office.

Among the acting appointments, Mr. Grannum, the Auditor-General, acted as Colonial Secretary for Mr. Le Hunte, and Mr. W. H. Bailey acted as Auditor-General during the same period.

PENSIONS.

12. The total cost in 1897 of Pensions paid to public officers since retiring was £3,104, as compared with a cost of £3,162 in 1896.

A substantial reduction occurred by the death of Sir William Brandford Griffith in 1897, while the retirement of Mr. Robert Haynes on the last day but one of the year will cause a very heavy increase in the future.

FOREIGN CONSULS.

13. Mr. S. A. Macallister was appointed Consul for the United States of America in place of Mr. Tate.

Mr. C. A. Daniel and Mr. N. E. Parravicino were appointed Consul and Vice-Consul respectively for the Republic of Venezuela.

Mr. Parravicino provisionally acted as Consul for Austro-Hungary, and as Consular Agent for Italy.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

14. The census for 1891 shewed a population as under :—

Whites.		Total Whites.	Coloured.		Total Coloured.	Total Population.
Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.		
7,339	8,274	15,613	73,766	92,927	166,693	182,306

It may be taken that the total population in 1897 numbered about 190,000, with a large preponderance of females.

The total number of registered births in 1897 was 7,197, of which 3,300 were legitimate and 3,897 illegitimate, shewing a percentage of legitimate births 45·85 and of illegitimate births 54·15.

The health of the island has been good.

The death rate for 1897 was 26·12 per 1,000, as compared with a death rate of 27·08 in 1896.

The birth rate for 1897 was 38·87 per 1,000, as compared with a birth rate of 38·59 in 1896.

The death rate would seem high, but it has to be remembered that the overcrowding in rooms is terribly great and the feeding of the poor often barely sufficient, while the large infantile mortality is greatly due to the injudicious feeding of infants under one year.

SAVINGS BANK.

15. The number of depositors on the 31st of December 1897 was 12,278, having an amount to their credit of £213,984, as compared with 11,661 depositors in 1896, with a credit of £190,526.

The assets of the Savings Bank on the 31st of December were comprised in investments in stock, in deposit receipts and current account at the Colonial Bank, and in investments on mortgage on landed estates in Barbados; amounting in the aggregate to £220,659.

This is calculating the value of the stock at the price paid for it, although much of it has risen in value since its purchase.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

16. The number of Friendly Societies on the Register on the 31st of December 1897 was 152. No societies were added to the Register during the last half of the year—a most unusual circumstance, which the Registrar ascribes to the diminished amount of funds at the disposal of the artisans and labouring classes.

ECCLESIASTICAL.

17. The total cost of Ecclesiastical Establishments in the Colony in 1897 was £11,220, of which £10,070 was allocated to the Anglican Establishment.

EDUCATION.

18. The total expenditure under the head of Education in 1897 was £16,730—of which £11,490 was spent on Elementary Education.

The Schools consist of First Grade, Second Grade, and Elementary Schools.

The First Grade Schools are Harrison College, the Lodge School, and Queen's College, the latter being for girls only.

The Second Grade Schools are Combermere School, Coleridge School, Parry School, Alleyne School, and the Alexandra School, the latter being for girls only.

Most of these schools are in a satisfactory condition and are doing good work in the Colony.

The number of children on the roll of the Elementary Schools in 1897 was 28,757, with an average attendance of 15,556, as compared with, in 1896, 27,589, with an average attendance of 15,052.

But, although the number of pupils is greater in 1897 than in 1896, the number of schools has been reduced from 183 to 179.

The principal point in connexion with Elementary Education is that to which I have adverted under the head of Legislation, namely, the Act limiting the amount in future to be paid for Elementary Education in any one year to £11,000.

The grand old foundation of Codrington College, affiliated to Durham University, still carries on its work energetically, although it is a matter of deep regret that the depression in the sugar estates on which the College depends for its revenues has seriously diminished its capacity as regards numbers.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

19. The total Imports of the Colony in 1897 amounted to £1,008,699 (as compared with Imports valued at £1,048,847 in 1896) of which £474,622 came from the United Kingdom, £182,829 from British Colonies, and £351,248 from foreign countries. Thus, there is a falling off of £40,148 as compared with 1896, and a reduction of imports in Barbados is not an indication of greater local production but of loss of purchasing power.

A part of this falling off is due to the fact that the new tariff came into operation on the 1st of January 1897, and consequently merchants had stocked very fully in 1896 of such goods as would come under the higher duty, leaving only their stock of goods coming under the lower duty to be replenished in 1897.

20. The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1892 to 1896 inclusive :—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£
1892	1,081,572	469,318	195,855	416,399
1893	1,372,537	583,086	254,404	535,047
1894	1,279,335	507,534	227,514	544,287
1895	956,921	391,434	184,154	381,333
1896	1,048,887	467,649	181,644	399,554
Average for 5 years ...	1,147,850	483,804	208,714	455,324
1897	1,008,699	474,622	182,829	351,248
Below the average ...	139,151	9,182	25,885	104,076
Above 1896	—	6,973	1,185	—
Below 1896	40,188	—	—	48,306

But, although the total value of import trade has been reduced, is is satisfactory to note that the value of Imports from the United Kingdom shews an increase of nearly £7,000, from the British Colonies of over £1,000, while the total loss in value is on Imports from foreign countries, amounting to about £48,000.

21. The following is a list of the most notable Decreases :—

		£
Bread	about	5,000
Margarine	„	3,000
Coffee	„	1,500
Salted fish	„	4,000
Lard	„	1,500
Petroleum	„	6,500
Tobacco, manufactured ...	„	1,400
Lumber	„	1,485
Staves	„	10,000
		£34,385

The most notable Increases are iron and steel £10,000 (being chiefly Government pipes for the water supply), malt liquor and spirits £2,000, salted meat £3,500.

Exports.

22. The total value of Exports in 1897 was £736,162, of which £555,394 was produce of the Colony and £180,768 was otherwise; as compared with a total value of exports in 1896 amounting to £758,228, of which £577,367 was produce of the Colony and £180,861 was otherwise.

This shews a total falling off of exports in 1897 as compared with 1896 of value £22,066, and a falling off of exports of produce of the Colony of value £21,973.

But the Exports of produce of the Colony in 1897 were 56,397 tons of muscovado sugar and 2,203 tons of dry sugar, as against 45,789 tons of muscovado and 3,610 tons of dry in 1896, shewing an increase in the actual weight of muscovado sugar exported in 1897 over 1896 of 10,608 tons, and a decrease in the amount of dry sugar exported of 1,407 tons.

Thus, in the aggregate, a much greater quantity (over 9,000 tons) of sugar was exported in 1897 than in 1896.

The total amount of molasses exported in 1897 was 37,432 puncheons, of a value of £86,094, as compared with an exportation in 1896 of 36,607 puncheons, of a value of £122,023; shewing an increase in number of puncheons exported of 825, but a decrease in value of £35,929.

It thus happens that, the price of sugar and molasses having steadily fallen, the value of exported Colonial produce shews, as I have stated, a heavy falling off of £21,973, despite this largely increased production.

23. The following table shews the destination of the Exports of the Produce of the Colony (mainly sugar, molasses, and rum) for five years up to and inclusive of 1897 :—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1892	115,635	134,463	501,825	751,923
1893	127,247	142,475	760,791	1,030,513
1894	114,311	166,944	490,747	772,002
1895	64,794	107,866	221,931	394.591
1896	33,521	132,794	411,052	577,367
1897	26,515	100,414	428,466	555,395

This shews that in 1897 a value of £26,515 was exported to the United Kingdom, a value of £100,414 to British colonies, and a value of £428,466 to foreign countries.

Rum is now practically not exported.

The bituminous substance known as Manjak may become an important article of exportation. The quantity exported in 1897 was 1,880 tons, compared with 878 in 1896. I shall allude to this industry in the concluding remarks of this report.

The exportation of articles other than the produce of the Colony shews hardly any variation from the previous year.

24. The following Table shows the total Trade (Import and Export) with the United Kingdom, British colonies, and foreign countries from 1892 to 1897 inclusive :—

Table shewing the Total Trade (Import and Export) with the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and Foreign Countries from 1892 to 1897.

Year.	With the United Kingdom.			With British Colonies.			With Foreign Countries.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Totals.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1892	469,318	119,168	588,486	195,855	273,895	469,750	416,399	533,510	949,909
1893	391,134	141,943	533,077	184,154	319,689	503,843	381,332	781,452	1,162,784
1894	507,534	127,444	634,978	227,514	319,269	546,783	544,286	537,798	1,082,084
1895	391,435	69,760	461,195	184,153	262,991	447,144	381,332	254,547	635,879
1896	467,649	38,520	506,169	181,644	274,813	456,457	399,594	444,895	844,489
1897	474,622	33,972	508,594	182,829	231,839	414,668	351,248	470,352	821,600

SHIPPING.

25. The total number of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1897 was :—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Steam Vessels.	Tons.	Total Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
1896 ...	798	89,430	354	542,119	1,152	631,549
1897 ...	812	92,760	376	576,507	1,188	669,267

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Steam Vessels.	Tons.	Total Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
1896 ...	800	89,340	355	543,127	1,155	632,467
897 ...	819	90,188	376	576,507	1,195	666,695

The above is the Customs return of vessels actually "Entered" and "Cleared,"—but, as vessels have twenty-four hours given them before they need "enter," it happens that a far larger tonnage really visits Carlisle Bay than appears above.

The details of this will be found in the Harbour Master's return on page X. 17 of the Blue Book, which shows a total arrival of 2,017 vessels, with a total tonnage of 1,107,710 tons.

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

Glendairy Prison.

26. The total cost of Glendairy Prison in 1897 was £5,404, as against £5,537 in 1896.

The total number of prisoners in 1897 was 3,267, as against 3,360 in 1896.

The estimated value of labour of males is :—

	£
Outside	736
Inside, various labours	202
Inside, estimated saving on bakery	658
Being a total of	£1,596
The estimated value of female labour is ...	154
Shewing a total for males and females of	£1,750

Dodds Reformatory for Boys.

27. The total cost of this institution was in 1897, £1,650, as compared with £1,760 in 1896.

The total number of boys was 121, as compared with 118 in 1896.

This is a very useful institution, and it is a pity it is not larger. It is ably and scientifically conducted by Mr. Bovell and Professor d'Albuquerque.

As far as can be ascertained, the great majority of boys emigrating from it return to honest ways and become useful members of society.

If the extent of the institution was greater many more boys could be rescued from the gutter, but economy has to be studied, and not much can be done at present in that direction.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

28. The total rainfall of 1897 was 65·09 inches, with 213 wet days, as compared with 80·41, with 228 wet days, in 1896.

The mean barometrical pressure was 29·940.

The mean temperature was 79·2.

The island was entirely free from hurricanes or earthquakes.

POST AND TELEGRAPH STATISTICS.

29. The revenue of the Post Office in 1897 was £8,048, and the expenditure was £9,770, shewing a balance of expenditure over revenue of £1,722. This is due to the great cost of conveyance of mails abroad, which practically absorbs the whole of the two and a half pence paid on each letter.

The sum of £18,932 was paid in the Colony on money orders sent from the various British West India Islands.

This represents mainly remittances from Barbadians working elsewhere to their families here. It is less than in late previous years, but times are harder throughout the West Indies.

HOSPITALS.

30. In taking Hospital expenditure for 1896, my predecessor, I believe, took certain figures from the Hospital Books. I think that the better plan is to take the Auditor-General's figures, shewing everything paid within the year, and not merely expenses incurred within the year.

Differences can then easily be explained.

On this basis the total expenditure on Hospitals for 1897 was as under :—

—	1897.	1896.
	£	£
General Hospital	7,002	7,265
Lunatic Asylum	5,401	5,759
Lazaretto	2,673	2,787

The General Hospital shewed considerable savings under "Provisions" and "Furniture" in 1897 as compared with 1896.

"Provisions" and "Water" in the Lunatic Asylum shewed a considerable saving in 1897.

"Provisions" in the Lazaretto shew a saving.

I append a statistical table for 1897 :—

—	Discharges.	Deaths.	Daily Average.
General Hospital	3,223	188	208
Lunatic Asylum	45	58	328
Lazaretto	—	16	113

PAROCHIAL INSTITUTIONS.

31. The total expenditure under this head in 1897 was £16,032, as compared with £15,879.

The admissions into the parochial institutions in 1897 were 1,735, as compared with 1,627 in 1896.

The Poor Law Inspector's report speaks well of the general health of the Island. Diarrhœa and dysentery have been practically absent, and the number of typhoid cases very few.

There has been an epidemic of influenza in 1897, with but few deaths.

The medical reports generally tend to shew that the abundant supply of pure water has largely helped to do away with typhoid and diarrhœal complaints, which were formerly so prevalent.

GENERAL.

32. In view of the widespread interest which has been created by the Report of the Royal Commissioners, this Report would be incomplete without some remarks on the condition of the sugar industry, which is at present the very life-blood of the Island.

33. It may appear somewhat presumptuous on my part, after a brief six months' experience, to try to deal with a subject so familiar and so vital to the inhabitants of the Colony, but it is my duty to speak of such points connected with the industry as have principally attracted my attention.

34. It is often said that the existing depression is largely due to the lack of enterprise on the part of the sugar growers, and that a greater desire evinced to march with the times would have brought planters in line with modern conditions and have enabled them to meet falling prices.

That there is some truth in this cannot be doubted, but it is to the circumstances of the industry rather than to lack of enterprise that this is due.

35. I do not think that it is fully realised how small the estates, as a rule, are ; a hundred, or two hundred, or three hundred acres being, as a rule, the extent of an estate.

These small estates, hardly as big as a fair-sized tenant farmer's holding, have in past years, and even up to a comparatively late date, yielded results so profitable as to seem incredible to a stranger.

To quote the words of a distinguished official of the West Indies :—" My father brought up his eight children and sent me " to Oxford on an estate of only one hundred acres."

36. Now, can it be wondered at, that with such results from ordinary and somewhat rudimentary methods, planters have failed to appreciate the value of modern machinery and modern economy until forced by sheer necessity ?

An ample income easily acquired with but slight outlay, and a beneficent trade-wind to work such machinery as was necessary, made life easy and prosperous to the planter; and, under such circumstances, and under a tropical sun, how many of us, I wonder, would have hurried to tentative expenditure, involving risk and worry, in order to attain to possibly larger (but possibly smaller) income?

37. It is true that in some cases several estates are included in one ownership, but in this, too, there is a curious variation from accepted English methods in matters of property.

The English practice is to concentrate one's property; in ordinary parlance, to get it "within a ring fence."

The accepted method in Barbados would seem to have been to scatter it. Even where several estates are in one holding they are nearly always far apart, and but rarely sufficiently adjacent to make it convenient to work all the estates by one mill.

I think that this has arisen from a desire to catch the advantages of rainfall on some of their estates, if not in this parish then in that (for the rainfall is curiously variable in the several districts), or it has possibly occurred through the difficulty of acquiring contiguous properties, but, from whatever cause it comes, the well-understood merits of a compact property have never been appreciated in Barbados.

38. Hence, even large holders have been subjected to the great cost of duplicated and triplicated management, staff, plant, and machinery; and the expenditure on better machinery and on steam as a motive power even where it has been attempted has been necessarily greater. Absenteeism, too, has proved very fatal. The large incomes easily earned prompted owners to draw their revenues away from the island. By degrees incumbrances arose, and, little by little, much of the property passed away from the original proprietors.

39. Sometimes this was by the imposition of mortgage after mortgage—at first to provide portions for younger children, and afterwards to help to tide over difficulties—until the interest of the original owner seemed lost. Sometimes the property was actually sold; but the purchaser took it over, with its incumbrances, paying a small sum down, and involving himself from the start in the difficulties which had engulfed his predecessor.

40. Bad as this was, the effects were not largely apparent on the interests of the Island, as the industry was itself full of life; prices, though gradually falling, remained profitable; and the sugar itself was of so excellent a quality as to command a ready and lucrative market.

41. Then, again, labour was (and is) so cheap. Other industries and other places have had to fight against scarce labour, or combined labour, or high-priced labour. But here was abundant labour always at hand and always cheap.

42. Thus the industry was maintained, despite incumbrances and falling prices.

43. At last beet sugar became a serious factor in competition, and the output of sugar throughout the world was increased to a vast extent.

44. This was supplemented by the foreign bounty system, and nothing but ruin seemed to remain for the industry.

45. Then came the Royal Commission, and the Report of the Commissioners.

I have heard it said that the Commission was a cruel kindness—that it probed and brought to the surface the woes of the Colony and destroyed credit, with but little hope of giving a sufficing remedy.

But it cannot be doubted that unjustified credit based on ignorance can only have but a short life, and I think it is fairly generally admitted that the daylight which has been let into the industry is the only true precursor of the renewed prosperity which may yet accrue to Barbados and its sugar industry.

46. I will here touch for a moment on what is known as the Chancery system in Barbados, as applied to sugar estates.

A planter, having mortgaged his estate to full value, and often far in excess of full value, and having exhausted his credit utterly, at last finds no apparent salvation.

In ordinary countries the mortgagees would foreclose and the end would be simple and expeditious, but not so here. The mortgagor, either personally or by his mortgagees, puts his estate in Chancery. It is valued by appraisers under the Chancery Act, such appraisers being, as a rule, themselves planters or attorneys to planters.

I do not think it will be controverted that the appraisement (whether it represents the true value of the land, as is often argued, or not) is generally much in excess of any sum likely to be paid for it.

The estate cannot be sold below its appraised value, and it is therefore not sold at all, and remains in Chancery. A Receiver is appointed, and he, under conditions into which it is unnecessary to go, works the estate.

Capital for present necessities has to be provided for him, and consequently the law says that the Receiver shall be permitted to mortgage the growing crop in advance, and that the charge so created shall be a first charge against the estate, taking priority of all previous incumbrances.

47. The theory is that this is beneficent legislation in the interests of planters and mortgagees, and all connected with the industry, preventing forced sales and giving time to tide over evil days, and so affording an opportunity to all to get their money back by degrees, and to free the estate from debt. It is also held that the system serves to keep an estate in cultivation which would otherwise relapse into waste land, and thus finds occupation for the large number of the poor living on the land.

Theoretically there is much to be said for this, but practically it has proved a doubtful blessing.

If the depression was ephemeral no doubt it would have served its purpose, but, the depression being continuous and increasing in volume, it has only so far resulted in keeping fitful life in a bankrupt estate, in keeping the owner still owner in name, and in holding out a will-o'-the-wisp fantasy to owners and mortgagees that some day things will be better and that they will come by their own again.

The manifest objection to the system is that it puts obstacles in the way of a new ownership, and of possibly fresh capital being laid out on what would, under new conditions, be an unencumbered estate cheaply acquired.

48. I have heard the Chancery system much discussed, equally condemned and extolled; but I have heard a third view of it which is worth considering,—which is as follows:—"Admit "that the Chancery system as a continuance is impossible unless "prices get better—even so, the present moment is not the moment "to abolish it. It is hoped that remedies are at hand and that "central factories will re-establish the industry—give present "owners and mortgagees one more chance, and await the result of "the new departure. Do not ruin them, and do not risk throwing "the land out of cultivation until that chance has been tried. "Then, after fair trial, if you find that estates so placed are "beyond recuperation, abolish your Chancery Act and throw the "estates on the market."

49. The great question of reduced labour likely to be required under more scientific methods of production has not, of course, escaped the Royal Commissioners, and it may be that many labourers may be thrown out of work. But, as this must happen in any case, it will be better that the Island should be in a prosperous condition to deal with the problem when it arises than that it should have to face it with a departing industry and ruined finances.

50. If some larger scheme has in the future to be taken to find means for emigration of the labouring classes, a revived industry would provide better means to meet it; and emigration on a large scale may yet prove a blessing, alike to Barbados labourers and to those neighbouring Islands with much waste

land, many of which only await population, labour, and cultivation to bring them out of the distressed condition in which they at present exist.

51. Although the abundance of labour in Barbados threatens to be one of the difficult problems of the future, it has undoubtedly up to the present served to keep the heads of Barbados planters above water.

Anyone seeing the Island to-day finds it hard to realise the distress which underlies it.

Look around from almost any point, and it is a garden—hardly an acre uncultivated, and the sole sign of depression which does strike one is the neglected condition, as a rule, of the plantation house itself.

Of course, the secret of it is that the industry is eating up the last vestige of its capital.

At present, if one can credit the statements of everyone connected with the sugar industry, the working of a plantation, even under favourable circumstances, hardly makes both ends meet. Each year more incumbrances accrue, and, unless cheaper methods or better prices, or both, come quickly in aid, estates must go out of cultivation; and it is only on seeing and knowing the Island that one is able to judge of the pity of it.

52. Passing from the sugar industry to other matters of interest concerning the Island, it will not be out of place to put in a plea for the climate of Barbados, and for its merits as a health resort during the winter months.

53. Barbados is very generally of coral formation, and is so porous that all moisture quickly filters away. This coral formation crops up throughout almost to the surface, and the coating of soil on the top, in which the canes flourish, is so slight as to make it difficult to believe at first sight that anything over a foot high can grow on it.

The porous character of the soil, taken in connexion with the absolutely complete cultivation, renders malaria next to impossible, while the strong trade winds which sweep the Island for a great part of the year, coming as they do unimpeded from the open sea, drive out any possible lurking evils which the tropical climate may engender.

54. That it is hot cannot be denied, but even the heat is so tempered by the trade wind that it is far from being unbearable at any time, and it is often non-existent.

55. Of the water supply of the island it is difficult to speak too highly. The underground natural reservoirs, which are, I

am informed, the result of the rainfall filtering through the porous coral on to the underlying clay beds, give forth a supply which, so far, has never failed. After a wet season the sources will yield eleven million gallons daily, while even in a time of great drought, as at present, the yield is two and a half million gallons daily, or about twelve and a half gallons per head per day.

This water, which is perfectly pure, is carried by Government over nearly the whole island, and, although, of course, householders are charged where water is laid on for their special use, the poor have an unlimited supply free of charge. Standpipes (to which the coloured population have loyally given the title of "Queen Victoria's Pump") are nearly everywhere erected at short intervals, and there are few places indeed (and there will be fewer as time goes on) where the poorest cannot get an absolutely abundant supply of pure water without any charge, direct or indirect, except such as belongs to him as a citizen of the State and a unit of the Government.

56. In dealing with the Colony of Barbados, the Royal Commissioners in their report have practically said that by its sugar the Colony must stand or fall, and that it is unsuited to the cultivation of coffee, cocoa, and fruit in quantities to be of commercial value; and, so far as has been tried, this is so.

57. Some hope rests on the Manjak industry, which is at present in its infancy.

The meaning or origin of the term "manjak" is, so far as I am aware, unknown, and it appears to be a purely local term.

The substance is bituminous and is a species of asphalt. It varies in quality, being sold to agents on the island locally at prices varying from £7 10s. to £3 10s. per ton.

The mine producing what is known as Merivale's manjak yields, I believe, up to the present, the best quality produced in the island.

This mine may be taken as a favourable example of what has been so far done.

It pays over £50 a week in wages and employs over one hundred hands.

The veins of the material are curiously uncertain, varying in width from a few inches to many feet, pinching and widening capriciously.

Shafts have been sunk to a depth of nearly 100 feet below sea level, and steps have to be taken to get rid of the water which accumulates.

The mining has, so far, been carried out under many difficulties, owing to the lack of capital to develop the industry, and some of the headings are so narrow as to make a visit of inspection a laborious task.

The veins run through walls of infusorial earth locally known as chalk, and through a species of blue clay curiously like diamondiferous blue, but of a somewhat softer character.

For the most part it has been found and worked on the Eastern side of the Island.

Although discovered in many places, it has not yet been found in great quantity; but its quality is such as to make it a profitable industry.

If the matrix of the substance could be ascertained a source of revenue would be opened out which would tend to help the Island out of its industrial troubles.

The less valuable kinds of manjak are used for insulating purposes, but the superior qualities are, I am informed, mainly used for varnish.

The export, which has risen from 878 tons in 1896 to 1,880 tons in 1897, gives great hope of better things in the future, and, with further discoveries, I should not be surprised if this substance made its way as an important item of export, besides giving fresh employment to the overflowing population of the island.

58. Efforts are being made by a British company, registered as the West Indian Oil Syndicate, with a nominal capital of £20,000, to develop an oil industry—and the company have acquired rights over several properties in the Scotland district, where boring has been carried on for the past eighteen months.

There is no official information on this matter, but I am informed that several thousand pounds have been already spent and that expensive machinery has been imported from the United States.

I am also informed that petroleum oil has been already struck in small quantities, and that the results of the syndicate's operations so far are encouraging.

Up to the present, however, only samples have been dealt with.

59. Experiments in various growths likely to be of value are from time to time carried out by the superintendent of that valuable local institution, Dodds Reformatory, but, unfortunately, the limited supply of land available does not permit of very extensive trials.

Some hope is at present entertained that the Ramie Ribbon (*Bechmeria Tenacissima*) may prove a success in cultivation, and opportunities are afforded as far as possible to private persons to experiment with it.

Should present views prove well founded it may be desirable for Government in another year to acquire the necessary machinery, on a small scale, to afford it a thorough test.

60. Barbados has its failings, but it is a fertile colony, with an industrious people, who, though possibly not free from faults of omission in enterprise, have recently struggled bravely against adversity, and who have shewn, and are still shewing, that they are capable of helping themselves.

61. May it not be urged that they are deserving from home, not only of abstract sympathy, but of practical aid which will help to restore to them their prosperity and will make them once more as valuable commercially as they still are loyal politically to the Mother-country?

RALPH WILLIAMS,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados, 26th May, 1898.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 262.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 231.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
July 1899.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
230	Turks and Caicos Islands	1897
231	Barbados	„
232	Lagos	„
233	St. Vincent	„
234	Sierra Leone	„
235	Falkland Islands	„
236	Straits Settlements	„
237	British New Guinea	1896–97
238	Bahamas	1897
239	St. Lucia	„
240	St. Helena	„
241	Trinidad and Tobago	„
242	British Honduras	„
243	Malta	„
244	Fiji	„
245	Hong Kong	„
246	Leeward Islands	„
247	Grenada	„
248	Gibraltar	„
249	Gold Coast	„
250	Mauritius and Rodrigues	„
251	Solomon Islands	1897–98
252	Seychelles	1897
253	Labuan	„
254	Ceylon	„
255	Basutoland	1897–98
256	Newfoundland	1896–97
257	Cocos-Keeling and Christmas Islands ...	1898
258	British New Guinea	1897–98
259	Bermuda	1898
260	West African Frontier Force...	1897–98
261	Jamaica	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.

No. 262.

BARBADOS.

BARBADOS,
1898.

(For Report for 1897, *see* No. 231.)

GOVERNOR SIR J. S. HAY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
26th May 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith six copies of the Annual Blue Book of the Colony, together with a copy of a letter from the Colonial Secretary covering his Report thereon, for the year 1898.

I have, &c.,
J. S. HAY.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados,
26th May 1899.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose my Report upon the Blue Book of the Colony of Barbados for the year 1898.

I have, &c.,
RALPH WILLIAMS,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency,
Sir J. S. Hay, K.C.M.G.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1898.

I. FINANCIAL.

(*a*.) *Revenue and Expenditure.*

Revenue.—The total actual revenue of Barbados for the year 1898 was £182,682. The estimated revenue was £180,894. Thus actual revenue exceeded estimated revenue by £1,788.

The revenue for 1897 was £184,706. Thus the revenue for 1898 was less than the revenue for 1897 by £2,024.

A reference to the comparative statement of revenue will shew that very few points need comment, the evenness of receipts from the various sources of revenue in respect to 1898 and 1897 being very remarkable.

(1.) *Customs; Warehouse rent.*—The increase shewn of £184 is due to the greater storage of kerosine oil.

(7.) *Fees of Office* shew an increase of £349. The fees formerly received by the Prothonotary and forming part of his emoluments are now paid into the Treasury.

A full explanation of this point appears in this report under the head of the "Office of Colonial Secretary" in the remarks on the expenditure of that office.

(14.) *Interest* shews a decrease of £843. The interest received is annually less as the capital sum of Waterworks Loan is reduced by the expenditure of such Loan on the continued waterworks construction.

(15.) *Special Receipts.*—This decrease of £1,331 is due to several causes, (*a*) lesser receipts at Glendairy Prison for cooperage. The cooperage work hitherto carried on at Glendairy having been found unremunerative has been discontinued. (*b*) Lesser receipts from Dodd's reformatory for plantation products. (*c*) Receipt of a smaller amount in respect to estate duties.

BARBADOS, 1898.

The following are the receipts under the principal heads of revenue for the past five years :—

—	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	94,244	82,529	104,191	106,880	106,709
Port and Harbour	4,234	3,239	3,787	4,235	3,972
Excise	29,422	25,666	27,461	32,226	32,461
Licences	6,473	6,012	5,569	5,622	5,385
Police Tax	3,619	3,603	3,880	3,893	4,050
Fees and Fines, and Fees of Office	5,624	4,671	5,547	5,111	5,297
Post Office	6,732	6,594	7,218	8,048	8,190
Miscellaneous	10,276	7,734	9,052	9,169	7,042
Waterworks	—	6,267	10,327	9,522	9,576
Totals	160,624	146,315	177,032	184,706	182,682
Temporary advance from Waterworks Loan Fund			8,500		
			185,532		

Expenditure.

The total actual expenditure of Barbados for the year 1898 was £185,840. The estimated expenditure was £180,284. Thus actual expenditure exceeded estimated expenditure by £5,556.

The expenditure for 1897 was £172,551. Thus the expenditure for 1898 exceeded the expenditure for 1897 by £13,289.

The following details in respect to the comparative expenditure of 1898 and 1897 will best explain this increase.

(2.) *Colonial Secretary's Department* shews a decrease of £598.

In order to make this matter clear I will associate with this head of expenditure No. 12 "Registration Office," and will quote verbatim from the Auditor General's report.

"It is explained with regard to the decrease of £598 in the Colonial Secretary's Department, and £960 (increase shewn) the cost of the Registration Office, which appears for the first time, that these two offices should for purposes of comparison with 1897 be taken together in 1898, inasmuch as, by the change which was effected on the 31st of December 1897, the Record Branch of the Colonial Secretary's Department was withdrawn from his supervision and erected into a separate office, known as the Registration Office, wherein are also performed the duties which until then were carried out under the Prothonotary, Clerk of the Crown and Registrar in Chancery, an officer whose emoluments consisted of a salary of £100 supplemented by fees. It has already been shewn under revenue, paragraph 13 of this report (Auditor General's report), that there was an increase of fees in this connexion of £349.

"£100, the salary of the Clerk of the Crown, is also saved, so that while there is an increase of expenditure, taking the Colonial Secretary's Office and the Registration Office together, of £362, the revenue is benefited otherwise to the extent of £449.

"There is thus a net gain to the Treasury of £87, notwithstanding an adjustment of fees to the advantage of the public."

(9.) *Public Market* shews an increase of £113. The increase here shewn is due to a greater consumption of, and partly in respect to higher charges for, gas and water.

(11.) *Lighthouses* shews an increase of £169 due to general repairs which were needed.

(12.) *Registration Office* shews an increase of £960 (*see* remarks on (2) Colonial Secretary's Department).

(13.) *Inland Revenue* shews a decrease of £152, due to the reduction of an officer.

(17.) *Prisons* shew a decrease of £235, mainly due to lesser purchases of cooperage material.

(23.) *Medical Departments* shew a decrease of £604, due mainly to saving in provisions for the lunatic asylum and lazaretto, and to smaller payments for guarding vessels in quarantine.

(25.) *Waterworks.*—This shews a heavy increase of £1,072 and is mainly due to repairs of water boats, as well as to a new boiler for the steamer "Florence."

In this connexion I am sorry to say that much of the money thus spent has been altogether lost consequent on damage sustained by the hurricane, the "Florence" having been so damaged as to be practically a dead loss.

(26.) *Pensions.*—The increase of £528 shewn is mainly due to pensions to the Prothonotary and to Dean Clarke, late of St. Michael's.

(27.) *Interest.*—The decrease in interest of £166 is due to the fact that only one month's interest was paid in 1898 on the loan of £8,500, which the revenue had borrowed in the year 1896 from waterworks funds and repaid on the 31st of January 1898.

(29.) *Miscellaneous.*—This heavy increase of £8,703 is principally due to the repayment by general revenue in January, 1898, of the loan of £8,500 made from waterworks to general revenue in 1896.

	£
Hurricane Relief Fund	1,486
Hurricane Repairs Fund... ...	1,985

Both the above items of expenditure were of an entirely extraordinary nature, and were incurred in respect to relief of distress and repairs to Government buildings in connexion with the hurricane of the 10th of September.

To summarise—

	£
Expenditure for 1898 was	185,840
Revenue for 1898 was	182,682
Shewing an excess of expenditure over revenue of	3,158

But inasmuch as I have shewn that £8,500 of old debt to waterworks was paid off, and that large sums had to be paid for extraordinary expenditure consequent on the hurricane, it will be seen that the Colony has paid its way fairly, and that its normal revenue is sufficient up to the present to meet its normal expenditure. I trust it may continue so.

The total expenditure for the last five years was as follows :—

1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
£ 161,278	£ 152,039	£ 184,020	£ 172,551	£ 185,840

(1.) (*b*) *Taxation.*

No change in taxation has been made within the year 1898.

(*c*) *Assets and Liabilities.*

	£
Assets on the 31st of December 1898 amounted to	17,893
Liabilities amounted to	1,257
Shewing balance of Assets of	16,636

(*d*) *Public Debt.*

The public debt on the 31st of December 1898 was £414,000, being £375,000 for waterworks loan, and £39,000 for public works.

The increase of the loan on account of public works amounted to £4,850, which was borrowed during the year for the continuation of wharf wall work, and for the prospective purchase of a new dredger, under the authority of "The Public Works Loan Act, 1881."

The amounts to the credit of sinking funds on the same date were :—

	£
Waterworks Loan	13,374
Public Works Loan	17,803

(*e*) *Currency.*

English money is in general use and all Government accounts are kept in sterling.

The merchants and the public, as a rule, keep their accounts in American currency.

There is only one Bank, namely, a branch of the Colonial Bank, at which all Government accounts are kept.

(*f*) *Public Works.*

No new works were carried out.

The renewal of wharf walls was continued during the year, but no dredging was done.

The total expenditure, not including hurricane expenditure, amounted to £9,847.

The construction and extension of the waterworks system has been continued at a cost of £28,602 in 1898.

It is confidently hoped that the entire waterworks construction scheme will be completed in 1899, when Barbados will be supplied throughout with a complete water system.

(*g*) *Public Works—Hurricane.*

The sum of £1,987 appears as spent on repairs to public buildings damaged by the hurricane.

This amount was spent out of general revenue on the authority of two resolutions of the Legislature.

(*h*) *Pensions.*

The total amount of pensions paid to public officers since retiring amounted in 1898 to £3,653, as compared with £3,105 in 1897. The reasons for this increase have been dealt with under the general head of Expenditure.

There has been a further amount spent in 1898 amounting to £2,171, which is in respect to premiums on insurances effected by public officers, and in respect to payments into the Savings Bank on behalf of public officers, in the terms of the Pension Act, 1890; which Act was passed to change the existing system of pensions, and to substitute a system of insurance and compulsory thrift in lieu thereof.

I notice that previous reports have omitted these latter payments when dealing with the head of Pensions, but they should undoubtedly be dealt with as money paid in respect to pensions.

The total amount of pensions is therefore £5,824.

BARBADOS,
1898.

II. TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(*a*) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The total imports of the Colony in 1898 amounted to £1,058,885 (as compared with imports valued at £1,008,699 in 1897), of which £428,063 came from the United Kingdom, £205,232 from British Colonies, and £425,590 from Foreign Countries. Thus there is an increase of £50,186 in total value of imports.

Food stuffs shew a large increase.

Salted meats, bran, bread, coffee, corn meal, flour, grain, rice, and oilmeal shew an increase in value in the aggregate of £72,166.

Cement, machinery, manures, oats, lumber, and staves shew an aggregate increase of £30,784 ; while coal, cottons, iron and steel, leather, hoops, woollens, and goods manufactured shew an aggregate decrease of £50,738.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1894 to 1898 inclusive :—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£
1894 ...	1,279,335	507,534	227,514	544,287
1895 ...	956,921	391,434	184,154	381,333
1896 ...	1,048,887	467,649	181,644	399,594
1897 ...	1,008,699	474,622	182,829	351,248
1898 ...	1,058,885	428,063	205,232	425,590

By this table it will be seen that while the general volume of imports has, as I have said, been increased, the result is not entirely satisfactory, inasmuch as :—

	£
Imports from the United Kingdom shew a falling off as compared with 1897 of ...	46,559
Imports from British Colonies shew an increase compared with 1897 of	22,403
Imports from Foreign Countries shew an increase as compared with 1897 of ...	74,342

First with regard to the falling off of trade with the United Kingdom :—

The following articles from the United Kingdom shew an aggregate decrease in 1898 as compared with 1897 of, approximately, £60,000, namely :—Bacons and hams, books, coin (gold and silver), butter, carriages, chinaware, cottons, iron and steel, boats, woollens, coal, iron nails, leathers, spirits, and wood-hoops.

While the following shew an increase in 1898 as compared with 1897 amounting to £13,600, namely :—Cement, machinery, wines, manures, rice.

As against this aggregate falling off of trade with the United Kingdom, it is satisfactory to note the increase in trade with British Colonies of £22,403, which increase is mainly due to trade in lumber from British North America, and in rice from Calcutta.

The increase in trade with Foreign Countries amounting to £74,342 is due to the increasing tendency to get all supplies from the United States of America.

Exports.

The total value of exports in 1898 was £769,231, of which £542,483 was produce of the Colony, and £226,748 was British, Foreign, and other produce in transit and through bond, as compared in 1897 with a total value of exports of £736,162, of which £555,394 was produce of the Colony, and £180,768 was produce in transit and through bond.

Thus there was an increase in 1898 of the total value of exports amounting to £33,069, but a decrease of value in exportation of Barbadian Colony products amounting to £12,911.

The general increase in value of exports is satisfactory as indicating briskness in trade, but the falling off in value of our own Colonial produce, consequent on a lesser production of sugar and on low prices, is to be regretted, as it is by our local exports of sugar and molasses that the Colony lives.

It will be seen by the following analysis that the loss is due to sugar, rum, manjack, and some other products, there having been a gain on molasses, although the quantity of molasses exported was less.

Barbados, 1898.

Thus, to analyse—there were 52,009 tons of muscovado sugar exported in 1898 as compared with 56,397 tons exported in 1897; there were 1,566 tons of dry sugar exported in 1898 as compared with 2,203 tons of dry sugar in 1897.

	Tons.
The falling off of tonnage of muscovado sugar exported in 1898 being	4,388
The falling off of tonnage of dry sugar in 1898 being	637
Shewing a total falling off of tonnage of sugar in 1898 amounting to	5,025

The total value of muscovado sugar exported in 1898 was £416,072, as compared with a value in 1897 of £422,977, and the total value of dry sugar exported in 1898 was £18,792 as compared with £24,453 in 1897:—

	£
Thus, there was a loss of value of muscovado sugar in 1898 as compared with 1897 amounting to	6,905
and— a loss of value of dry sugar in 1898 as compared with 1897 amounting to	5,661
or— a total loss of value in sugar in 1898 as compared with 1897 amounting to	12,566

But with molasses it was otherwise.

There were 34,123 puncheons of molasses exported in 1898 as compared with 37,432 in 1897, shewing a falling off of 3,309 puncheons in 1898 as compared with 1897;

But—

	£
The value of molasses exported in 1898 was ...	92,416
While the value of molasses exported in 1897 was	86,094
Shewing a total gain in the value of molasses in 1898 of	6,322

Deduct this gain on molasses from the loss on sugar and we have as under .—

	£
Loss on sugar	12,566
Gain on molasses	6,322
and the result is a loss in connection with sugar and molasses of	6,244

	£
The total loss in Colonial produce having been shewn to be	12,911
and—	
deducting loss on aggregate of sugar and molasses of	6,244
we shew losses from other sources of local Colonial produce amounting to	6,667

The other items of Colonial exports, forming in the aggregate this decrease of £6,667, are principally manjack, manures, building lime, and goods manufactured (such as carpenters' work, potteries, &c.).

The balance is made up of various smaller items.

The following table shews the destination of the exports of the products of the Colony (now mainly sugar and molasses, although in former years rum was an important item) for five years from 1894 to 1898 both inclusive :—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1894 ...	114,311	166,944	490,747	772,002
1895 ...	64,794	107,866	221,931	394,591
1896 ...	33,521	132,794	411,052	577,367
1897 ...	26,515	100,414	428,466	555,395
1898 ...	12,761	126,856	402,866	542,483

This shews that in 1898 a value of £12,761 was exported to the United Kingdom, a value of £126,856 to British Colonies, and a value of £402,866 to Foreign Countries.

It will be seen that the export to the United Kingdom is trifling; that to British Colonies increasing, and that to Foreign Countries (*i.e.*, the United States) slightly decreasing.

The following table shews the total trade (import and export) with the United Kingdom, the British Colonies, and Foreign Countries from 1894 to 1898 inclusive :—

Table shewing Total Trade (Import and Export) with the United Kingdom, British Colonies, and Foreign Countries from 1894 to 1898.

Year.	With the United Kingdom.			With British Colonies.			With Foreign Countries.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1894	507,534	127,444	634,978	227,514	319,269	546,783	544,286	537,798	1,082,084
1895	391,435	69,760	461,195	184,153	262,991	447,144	381,332	254,547	635,879
1896	467,649	38,520	506,169	181,644	274,813	456,457	399,594	444,895	844,489
1897	474,622	33,972	508,59[illegible]	182,829	231,839	414,668	351,248	470,352	821,600
1898	428,063	35,207	463,270	205,232	288,117	493,349	425,590	445,906	871,496

(b.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

BARBADOS, 1898.

Mines.

The only mines at present working are those of the manjack or glance pitch, a bituminous substance which is being worked in various parts of the Colony.

The export of manjack in 1898 amounted to 1,160 tons as compared with 1,880 tons in 1897.

This falling off is, I believe, due to a flooding of some of the works consequent on the hurricane, but there are no laws compelling mining returns, and I have been unable to obtain any reliable information on the subject.

Manufactures.

There are eight rum distilleries at work in the Colony, distilling in the aggregate 268,485 gallons of rum, of an approximate value (exclusive of duty) of one shilling per gallon.

Nearly the whole of this rum is consumed in the Colony.

There is a sulphuric acid factory on a moderate scale in the parish of St. James, as to which I have no details.

There are two manure factories in Bridgetown, doing, I am informed, a good business.

There is one tobacco and cigar factory on a small scale.

There are two ice factories.

I will endeavour in another year to ascertain greater details on these points, but nothing is officially furnished to me, and it has not hitherto been the practice to include these matters in a Blue Book Report.

Fisheries.

There is a large flying fish and general fishing industry carried on solely by the poorer classes, in which approximately 250 boats are employed, giving a livelihood to approximately 1,250 people; but the whole of the fish taken are locally consumed.

There are two very small whale fishing industries, the joint exportation of which in 1898 amounted to 193 barrels of oil.

(c.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATION.

The only agricultural industries are those for the production of sugar cane, and cereal and root crops for local consumption.

I am dealing with the question of the sugar industry in my "General" remarks.

The question of the Botanical Station also forms a part of my "General" remarks, as all botanical matters are closely connected with the Imperial Department of Agriculture, with which I have dealt in that part of my report.

(d.) LAND GRANTS, &c.

There are no land grants. The general value of the land is too fluctuating for it to be possible to deal with it in a few words. The question as a whole is treated in my "General" remarks.

(e.) SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1898 is shewn in the following table, which gives a comparison of 1898 and 1897 :—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Steam Vessels.	Tons.	Total Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
1897	812	92,760	376	576,507	1,188	669 267
1898	779	92,339	354	568,470	1,133	660,809

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Steam Vessels.	Tons.	Total Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
1897	819	90,188	376	576,507	1,195	666,695
1898	771	90,735	354	568,470	1,125	659,205

The above is the Customs return of vessels actually "Entered" and "Cleared," but as vessels have 24 hours given them before they need "enter" it happens that a far larger tonnage really visits Carlisle Bay than appears above.

The details of this will be found in the Harbour Master's return on page X 17 of the Blue Book, which shews a total arrival of 1,840 vessels with a total tonnage of 1,023,825 tons.

The following table gives a comparative statement of shipping entered and cleared for the last five years:—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1894	850	118,913	337	495,928	1,187	614,841
1895	739	84,938	329	499,768	1,068	584,706
1896	798	89,430	354	542,119	1,152	631,549
1897	812	92,760	376	576,507	1,188	669,267
1898	779	92,339	354	568,470	1,133	660,809

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1894	852	121,477	337	496,094	1,189	617,571
1895	736	84,777	330	500,418	1,066	585,195
1896	800	89,340	355	543,127	1,155	632,467
1897	819	90,188	376	576,507	1,195	666,695
1898	771	90,735	354	568,470	1,125	659,205

(3.) LEGISLATION.

Twenty-four Acts were passed in 1898, of which one was a consolidation of the Acts relating to Public Health. One Act, namely, that dated the 16th of December, to amend the Fire Brigade Act of 1891, was disallowed by the Secretary of State.

(4.) EDUCATION.

The total expenditure on education in 1898 was £16,360, as compared with £16,730 in 1897, of which £10,999 was spent on elementary education. In addition to the Government grant the Elementary School teachers collected £1,090 in school pence.

The schools consist of first grade, second grade, and elementary schools.

The first grade schools are Harrison College, The Lodge School, and Queen's College, the latter being for girls only.

The second grade schools are Combermere School, Coleridge School, Parry School, Alleyne School for boys, and the Alexandra School, and the Victoria School for girls only. At the end of 1898 there were 172 elementary schools.

The number of children on the roll of elementary schools in 1898 was 27,776, as compared with 28,757 in 1897; with an average attendance of 14,734 in 1898, as compared with 15,556 in 1897.

The falling off in the average attendance of 1898 is due to the greatly diminished attendance in the fourth quarter of the year, when school work was interrupted by the hurricane in all the elementary schools, and in some schools work was hardly resumed after the September vacation.

(5.) INSTITUTIONS.

(a.) & (b.) *Hospitals and Asylums.*

The General Hospital is subject to the General Hospital Act of 1890, and is under the control of a body of Directors of whom the Governor is *ex officio* one.

Although many members of this body are Directors in right of their appointments, it is not under the direct control of the Executive, nor are its officers and servants appointed by the Executive.

I am unable therefore to furnish any details of the working of the establishment from my personal knowledge as Colonial Secretary. The annual report of the Board is laid before the Legislature, and is published in the official gazette of the Colony.

The Lunatic Asylum is directly subject to the Executive.

It is a modern building of 1891, and is admirably managed by the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Field.

The Lazaretto is also directly under the Executive. It is an ill-constructed collection of houses of the bungalow character.

The Superintendent, Mr. Winter, does all that is possible, but new buildings are greatly needed, and the Institution can never be satisfactory until the present buildings are done away with and new ones erected.

The expenditure on the General Hospital, the Lunatic Asylum, and the Lazaretto for 1898 as compared with 1897 was as under :—

—	1898.	1897.
	£	£
General Hospital ...	6,999	7,002
Lunatic Asylum ...	5,129	5,401
Lazaretto	2,548	2,675

I append a statistical table for 1898 :—

—	Discharges.	Deaths.	Daily average.
General Hospital	3,537	281	211
Lunatic Asylum	39	50	336
Lazaretto	—	18	115

(c.) *Poor Houses.*

The poor houses are in no sense Government Institutions. They are under the direct control of the vestries. There are eleven in all, one in each parish.

I have, by the courtesy of the vestries, visited nearly all of them, and so far as the means at the disposal of the vestries allow, they seem to be well and carefully managed.

The St. Michael's poor house is a fine and well arranged building, and is admirably conducted.

The total expenditure on parochial institutions and poor relief in 1898, as taken from the Poor Law Inspector's report, was £17,274, as compared with £16,032 in 1897.

The admissions into the parochial institutions in 1898 were 3,029, as compared with 1,849 in 1897.

I see by reference to my report for 1897 that I quoted the figures then as being 1,755, but the figures as now given are correct.

(d.) *Reformatory.*

The cost of this institution in 1898 was £1,598, as compared with £1,666 in 1897.

The number of boys was 116 as compared with 121 in 1897.

Efforts are being made to get boys indentured to employers in other Colonies, but the prejudice felt against "Reformatory" boys has so far prevented any success in this direction.

(e.) *Savings Bank.*

The number of depositors on the 31st of December, 1898, was 12,859, having an aggregate sum of £220,831 to their credit, as compared with 12,278 depositors in 1897, having £213,984 to their credit.

The assets of the Savings Bank on the 31st of December, 1898, amounted to £234,410, consisting for the most part of investments in high class stock, but including investments to the amount of £9,774 in mortgages on landed property in Barbados.

The assets on the same date for 1897 amounted to £220,659.

The valuation of assets is here taken at the price paid and not at market price, which latter valuation would be considerably higher.

(6.) JUDICIAL STATISTICS

(a.) *Police.*

The subject of the police is dealt with in a special report by the Inspector, and it is not necessary to deal with it at length here.

The force consists of an inspector, a sub-inspector, two sergeant-majors, 12 sergeants, 24 corporals, and 315 constables.

The total cost of the force was as under in 1898 :—

	£
Salaries	17,572
Premiums under Pension Act	33
Pensions	1,073
Other expenditure	5,342
Giving a total of...	24,020

(b.) *Prisons.*

The total cost of Glendairy Prison in 1898 was £5,169, as compared with £5,404 in 1897.

The number of prisoners in 1898 was 3,538, as compared with 3,267 in 1897.

The estimated value of the labour of males is :—

	£
Outside	860
Inside	200
Inside, estimated savings on bakery	602
Being a total of...	1,662

	£
The estimated value of female labour is ...	162
Shewing a grand total of... ...	1,824

(7.) VITAL STATISTICS.

(*a.*) *Population.*

The census for 1891 shewed a population as under :—

Whites.		Total Whites.	Coloured.		Total Coloured.	Total Population.
Male.	Female.		Male.	Female.		
7,339	8,274	15,613	73,766	92,927	166,693	182,306

My report for 1897 estimated the population to be about 190,000, and as a rule there is a regular increase in the population, but the following figures will shew that in 1898 the tendency was the other way.

The total number of registered births in 1898 was 7,159 (of which 3,226 were legitimate, and 3,933 illegitimate), *i.e.*, a birth rate of 37·67 per 1,000, as compared with a total of registered births in 1897 of 7,197, *i.e.*, a birth rate of 37·87 per 1,000.

It will thus be seen that there were 38 fewer births in 1898 than in 1897.

The total number of burials (there is no death registration) in 1898 was 7,415, *i.e.*, a death rate of 39·02 per 1,000, while the total number of burials in 1897 was 4,963, *i.e.*, a death rate of 26·12 per 1,000.

It will thus be seen that there were 2,452 more burials in 1898 than in 1897, while there were 256 more burials in 1898 than there were births in 1898.

The unusual condition of things shewn is mainly due to the effect of the hurricane.

It was pointed out at the time that the actual deaths by accident in no sense represented the true mortality consequent on that disaster. The terrible exposure both at the time and during the period following on the hurricane tried the vitality of all, and especially of the very old and the very young, and the consequence is seen in the disastrous figures here shewn.

I am informed by the Poor Law Inspector, Dr. Hutson, that there were a very unusual number of still-births during the fortnight following the hurricane.

(*b.*) *Public Health.*

Up to the 10th of September, the date of the hurricane, the health of the Island was excellent, and the Colony was free from any epidemic.

From the 10th of September to the end of the year dysentery and diarrhœa were generally prevalent, and in two parishes typhoid also.

(*c.*) *Sanitation.*

The sanitation of the Island is primarily controlled by the Central Board of Health, appointed by the Governor, which is given large powers under the Public Health Act. Practically the detailed working is carried out, in accordance with approved sanitary bye-laws, by local boards of each parish appointed by the vestries. Generally speaking the work is carefully carried out.

(*d.*) *Climate.*

The climate is as a rule very healthy; this is mainly due to the health-giving trade winds; the porous coral formation, the complete cultivation, and the entire absence of bush and swamp. It is also in large measure due to the very perfect Government water supply, which provides abundant pure drinking water to all classes.

(1.) *Rainfall.*—The total rainfall of 1898 as taken at the Botanical Station was 64·55 inches, with 205 wet days, as compared with 65·09 inches and 213 wet days in 1897.

(2.) The mean barometrical pressure was 29·919.

(3.) The mean temperature was 78·6.

(4.) The mean velocity of the wind was 9·0 miles an hour. The prevailing winds are the North East Trades.

From observations taken at the Botanical Station it appears that the wind was E. by S. for 97 days, E. by N. for 107 days, E. for 81 days, S.E. for 14 days, E.N.E. for 12 days, E.S.E. for 26 days, N.E. for 8 days, and the other days in other quarters.

(8.) (*a.*) POSTAL SERVICE.

The revenue of the Post Office in 1898 was £8,190, compared with a revenue in 1897 of £8,048.

The expenditure in 1898 was £9,712, as compared with an expenditure of £9,770 in 1897.

In 1898 expenditure exceeded revenue by £1,522.

This loss on the postal service is due to the great cost of conveyance of mails abroad. The Colony paid in 1898 to the General Post Office, London, and to the Post Offices of other countries a total sum of £4,157 in respect to conveyance of mails, of which £2,160 was paid in respect to the West India Mail Contract.

The Colony adopted the penny postage on the 25th of December 1898, but the time was too short to judge what effect this may have on the postal revenue.

The sum of £21,142 was paid in the Colony on money orders from other British West India Islands.

This money was for the most part money sent by Barbadian labourers, working elsewhere, to their families in Barbados.

(*b.*) *Telegraph Service.*

There is no inland telegraph service.

The only cable company directly connecting with Barbados is the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, which company draws a subsidy from the Colony of £2,500 annually. The present contract terminates on the 31st of December 1899.

(*c.*) *Telephone Service.*

There is an excellent telephone service throughout the Island in the hands of a private company, with an approximate length of wire in use of 600 miles.

(9.) MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

Barbados is still a Military Station of the Empire, the garrison usually consisting of Headquarters and five Companies of a British Regiment, and of four Companies of a West India Regiment, the whole under the command of a Major-General, whose military command also includes St. Lucia.

It is now beyond doubt that the troops will, within the next three years, be removed to St. Lucia, where buildings are being erected to receive them.

The total amount paid in 1898 by the Imperial Government for the garrisons of Barbados and St. Lucia was £102,646, of which £51,996 was expended on the upkeep of troops in Barbados.

Much of this money was actually spent in Barbados, and the loss to the Colony on the removal of the troops will be severely felt.

(10.) FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The number of friendly societies on the register as shewn in the Official Registrar's half yearly report on the 31st of December 1898 was 154, as compared with 152 in 1897. The Registrar reports that much damage was done to the buildings of many of the societies by the hurricane of the 10th of September.

(11.) ECCLESIASTICAL.

The total cost of ecclesiastical establishments in 1898 was £11,379, which was allocated as follows:—

	£
Anglican Establishment	10,229
Wesleyan „	700
Moravian „	400
Roman Catholics	50
	11,379

During the year Dean Clarke of St. Michael's resigned after having held the Rectory of St. Michael's for fifty years, and was succeeded both in the Deanery and Rectory by Dean Phillips.

(12.) ESTABLISHMENTS.

During the absence of Governor Sir J. S. Hay on leave from the 29th of October to the 25th of December the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Ralph Williams, administered the Government. Mr. Greaves, the Attorney-General, acted as Colonial Secretary, and Mr. Goodman, the Solicitor-General, as Attorney-General.

Mr. H. S. Seon, one of the Police Magistrates of Bridgetown, retired on a pension.

Mr. M. J. Berkeley, Police Magistrate of District "D," was appointed to succeed him, and Mr. F. Stanley Smith, Barrister, was appointed to succeed Mr. Berkeley at District "D."

Mr. C. J. Lawrance, Inspector of Police, died of typhoid fever on the 13th of November, and Mr. Chancellor, Sub-inspector, acted for him during the remainder of the year, Mr. Mandeville acting for Mr. Chancellor.

By the death of Mr. Lawrance the Colony lost the services of a capable and zealous public officer, and the Governor of a useful adviser.

During the absence of Mr. E. T. Grannum, the Auditor General, on leave, Mr. Bailey, the Registrar, acted as Auditor General, Mr. W. Lindsay Haynes acting as Registrar. Mr. S. S. Phillips, of the Audit Office, acted as Governor of Glendairy Prison in January 1898.

(13.) COUNCILS AND ASSEMBLIES.

The personnel of the Legislative Council remains the same.

The House of Assembly was deprived of the services of its Speaker, by the murder of Mr. Archibald Pile, C.M.G.

Mr. Pile was the victim of a dastardly attack on a lonely road while driving from Bridgetown to his country house, and after a lingering illness died on the 2nd of September, to the universal sorrow of all classes.

By his death the Executive and the Legislature lost a most distinguished member, and the people a useful and honoured public servant.

Mr. Pile's place as Speaker of the Assembly was filled by the election of Mr F. J. Clarke as Speaker.

(14.) FOREIGN CONSULS.

The only changes are that Mr. N. E. Parravicino was appointed Consul for Austro-Hungary, and Consular Agent for Italy, and General Vicente Perez Leon was appointed Consul for Venezuela.

(15.) POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

The qualifications necessary for the franchise are detailed at length in the annual Blue Book (*see* page " L "). The total number of electors on the register was 1,922 as compared with 2,208 in 1897, and with 2,341 in 1896.

I am informed by the Revising Officer that the falling off in the number of electors is mainly due to increased carelessness on the part of qualified persons in neglecting to register themselves.

Depression in trade and business losses are also partly responsible for the falling off.

(16.) GENERAL REMARKS.

(*a*.) During the year 1898 the Colony had to cope with a great disaster, having, on Saturday the 10th of September, been visited by a severe hurricane.

It may safely be taken that no storm of equal severity has occurred in Barbados since the great hurricane of 1831.

About 18,000 labourers' huts were blown down.

Many plantation buildings used for the manufacture of sugar were destroyed, and much live stock was either killed or disabled ; 85 persons were killed, and approximately 260 injured ; 27 others are known to have been drowned in a local passenger boat.

Four barques were blown out to sea and all are known to have been lost, although the crews of three were saved, and several smaller vessels were lost.

Speaking generally, nearly every house received more or less damage, and the aggregate cost of repairs must have been enormous.

The two principal Government bridges in Bridgetown were so injured as to be rendered for the time, and until re-construction can be effected, practically useless, and Government property was destroyed to the extent not far short of £20,000, besides much movable private property being lost or damaged.

In addition to this, the sugar cane plants were so bent and broken by the hurricane, and the soil so scoured by the flood of water which followed, that it is feared that in many parts of the Island the canes have not recovered, and that the result will be a short crop, which, with the present narrow margin of existence left to the planter, promises to be a serious matter.

The actual aid given to Barbados was £18,000 from the Mansion House Fund, and £40,000 as a grant from the Imperial Government, as well as about £7,362 from other sources.

In addition to this, there is good reason to hope that £50,000 will be advanced to the Local Government by the Imperial Government for the purpose of granting loans to planters on easy terms for the restoration of buildings &c., on sugar estates.

Much criticism has been applied to the aid given to the Colony. On the one hand the public of England has been found fault with for being lacking in generosity in connexion with the Mansion House Fund, and on the other hand the Imperial Government has been taxed with undue liberality where it was neither needed nor deserved.

Neither of these representations is correct. Public subscription, supplemented by the most generous Imperial Grant, has sufficed to meet the occasion. The entire damage bill has not been paid, and there was no reason that it should be paid, but the aid given has sufficed to put a good shelter over the heads of all those most in need of it, to find food for the destitute, and generally to provide funds to enable the Colony to tide over its difficulties. It will also in a large measure enable some of the most pressing public works repairs to be carried out without trenching upon the depleted revenues of the Colony. In fine, money in sufficient, but not in excessive, amount has been promptly placed at the disposal of the Colony to meet its wants.

I have seen statements even in the greatest of the English journals dealing with the damage done by the hurricane, and with the methods employed in administering relief, in which both St. Vincent and Barbados are referred to.

It is not my place to speak of St. Vincent, although I know of the immense and most successful efforts made in that Colony. But of Barbados I can speak, and can most thoroughly testify to the ungrudging labour and most scrupulous care given by the Vestries, which were the distributing bodies (subject to the Executive) of all relief granted. It cannot but be that, in the tens of thousands of cases relieved, some unevenness occurred, but the best proof of the general contentment with the arrangements made has been the perfect order which has prevailed.

When it is realised that in the face of this great disaster, not one single case of organised disorder has occurred amidst a crowded population of nearly 200,000 souls, despite the utter financial depression of the Colony, it will be seen how quickly and how completely the local bodies carried out the extraordinary duties so suddenly imposed upon them.

The policy of the Government from the first has been to aid and not to pauperise. Where work was available, aid, except of an essentially temporary kind, was withheld, although in all cases shelter, first temporary and then permanent, was provided for the very poor.

The result has been satisfactory, and the Government is now in a position to say that, except as regards the probability of a short crop, and the repairs to Government property still to be carried out, the difficulties of the hurricane of 1898 have been disposed of.

(*b*.) The railway company, recently in liquidation, has changed hands, and the new company is making an effort to restore the permanent way and to replace the rolling stock.

A narrow gauge is taking the place of that hitherto in use, and smaller and lighter engines and carriages are being introduced.

An extension of the existing line is also under consideration.

I hope that the efforts now brought to bear upon the work by the new General Manager will result in a revival of the passenger and goods carrying industry, and that the railway may soon become lucrative to its owners and an aid to the resources of the Colony.

(*c*.) The question of emigration is one which is frequently placed before the Legislature, but so far without practical results.

The people will not emigrate. They will, from time to time, go away, but emigrate, in the large sense of the term, they will not, that is to say, in numbers sufficient to solve the population question.

Whether they would take advantage of it if an emigration bureau was established, and satisfactory arrangements made for settling numbers of families permanently on land granted to them in other Islands, has yet to be proved; but I confess to much doubt whether anything short of absolute starvation will induce any emigration on a large scale.

The pressure brought about by the hurricane was considerable, but, with every effort, only a few hundred persons consented to go to British Guiana, and none to Trinidad.

It is often stated that the planters oppose emigration because by overcrowding they obtain cheap labour. This contention I do not believe; every sensible man knows the desirability of encouraging emigration, and is cognisant of the difficulties which must arise unless it is carried out. The failure is due to the temperament of the people, who, as a rule, prefer low wages and their own homes to higher wages and separation from their island.

There is a grave difficulty impending, unless the sugar industry improves, in respect to the future of the young men and young women of the better classes.

Government retrenchment has closed many avenues of work, and plantation economies have wiped out others. The sons and daughters of formerly well-to-do people have but slight provision to look to under the altered circumstances, and I view with considerable apprehension the future in their respect unless a revival of our industry takes place.

(*d.*) There is nothing, I think, in connexion with the Barbados labour market or rates of wages which can in any degree be a matter of interest to the Emigrants' Information Office.

Wages are extremely low, all labour is local and coloured, and there are no openings for white labour, or for any class of white emigrants, in any direction. The cost of living to those who are content with such things as fish, rice, and sweet potatoes, is very low. To those who want the usual European surroundings it is fairly moderate.

(*e.*) The important question of Central Factories is still practically undealt with.

There is a fairly general feeling that in the future the agricultural and manufacturing processes necessary to the raising of sugar must be in different hands.

The old methods are not suited to modern competition, and will have to go.

Several capitalists have made suggestions in the direction of factories, but nothing tangible has yet come of it.

The local feeling is that the promoter wants too large [illegible] share for his aid. The planter is in such straits that he would willingly accept an offer if he could see his way to do it without ruin.

In all cases the price suggested to him for his canes has been so low that he feels that he cannot accept it. As he works it out, he actually gets more to-day than he would under the suggested improved conditions, so he has been compelled to refuse it. Because of this refusal, he is represented as a stiffnecked obstructionist, who will not take a good offer when it is made to him. This is not the case. The planters, who are represented on their agricultural bodies by intelligent and capable men, do most earnestly and fairly work out every scheme laid before them, but they are stopped, as I have said, by the one fact that, in their opinion, the canes cannot be produced in Barbados at the price offered by the promoters, and that ruin would follow the acceptance of such terms. The planters very rightly regard the schemes put forward by capitalists as being a pure matter of business, and in no sense philanthropic.

Promoters argue that the cultivation in Barbados is unduly costly, and that it can, and must be reduced; and in this, I think, they are probably right.

It is fair to state that the planters are fully sensible of their condition, most thoroughly appreciate the necessity of improved machinery, and are willing and anxious to fall in with any offer which will, in their opinion, enable them to remain on their estates and cultivate them with a fair prospect of a moderate return.

I have heard it stated that a local planter, aided by a considerable capitalist, is about to erect on a small scale, in time for the crop of 1900, the most modern machinery on his own estate, the machinery being capable of crushing, and designed to crush, not only his own canes, but also those of many of his neighbours; the situation of the plantation being in all respects favourable to the trial.

If this scheme is carried out, as I hope it may be, unfettered by liabilities and worked by independent capital, unhampered by mortgages, debts, and commission agencies, it would probably be a success. At all events, it would be an excellent test of the effect of modern methods.

If the crushing shewed better results, and the undertaking was not too costly, it would in all probability be the death blow of antiquated machinery.

It would, too, practically demonstrate the situation.

It would encourage other capitalists on a small scale to put down modern machinery, and would shew the planter what he could get and what he could afford to take for his canes. It would in point of fact shew who could hope to get his head above water again, and who was ruined beyond hope of salvation.

Properties would then have a chance of resuming their normal value (whatever that value might be), and the industry would at all events be on an assured basis.

This is of course assuming that foreign bounties will not be increased in proportion, and that the American Colonies cane sugar industry does not induce the United States to penalise British Colony sugar. Either of these events would be a burden too heavy for our sorely stricken industry to struggle against.

(*f.*) A most important move was made in 1898 by the appointment of an Imperial Department of Agriculture in the West Indies with Dr. Morris C.M.G., late of Kew Gardens, at its head.

The whole expense is being borne by the Imperial Government; the object being to improve the class of canes used, to indicate better and cheaper methods for their cultivation, and, if possible, to encourage a more technical education bearing upon the industry by which so many of the West Indian Colonies live.

The department will also largely encourage the raising of articles other than sugar, where this may be profitably done, and will deal with the question of peasant proprietorships where it is to the interests of the Colonies that such methods should be introduced.

So far as Barbados is concerned, I think that it is generally admitted that sugar and sugar alone must be its staple commodity. It is therefore a vital necessity that the present doubt as to canes should be dispelled, and authoritative results demonstrated.

(*g.*) The question of peasant proprietorships need not trouble us in Barbados. The overwhelming population renders it in all respects undesirable. We have no unoccupied lands which it is necessary to bring into cultivation. The acreage of the land might yield barely sufficient to furnish the present population, as peasant proprietors, for a time with the bare necessaries of life, but it would leave no margin for the raising of products for exportation; and the result of any wide-spread movement in that direction would be to throw the Colony back centuries in civilisation.

(*h.*) Yet with all our difficulties we have paid our way, and so far our revenue has exceeded our expenditure.

Visitors to Barbados are struck with the busy aspect of the place. All is business, bustle, and stir, none of that dreary apathy of the people, or of melancholy grass grown streets (so familiar a scene in some of the other islands), is apparent here.

One naturally asks where does the money come from?

In part perhaps it comes from the capital expenditure on waterworks; in part from the large military expenditure, but in the main it comes from the capital resources of the planters, from the last remaining values attaching to the land and its products.

Each year it is more difficult to get, but so far, each year it is got, and the land is still cultivated. But this, under present conditions, cannot last.

Under newer and better conditions it may not only last but be increased greatly in value, and I hope and think that those conditions are now not far off.

Unless cane sugar is to become extinct, driven out by beet, it seems impossible that this fertile Island, teeming with cheap labour, should be unable to compete.

I do not think the colonists of Barbados want charity, nor do they want exceptional treatment. All they ask is security for their industry and a reasonable prospect that, if they can once more attract capital to their Island and bring their production and manufacture into line with modern conditions, their efforts will not be rendered nugatory by a continued acceptance of a system which, while giving infinitesimal advantages to those at home, will ruin once and for ever, a most valuable branch of British industry abroad.

RALPH WILLIAMS,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados,
26th May, 1899.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 294.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1899.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 262.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.
August, 1900.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
262	Barbados	1898
263	Falkland Islands	"
264	Gambia	"
265	St. Helena	"
266	Leeward Islands	"
267	St. Lucia	"
268	Fiji	"
269	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
270	Malta	"
271	Gold Coast	"
272	Trinidad	"
273	Sierra Leone	"
274	Ceylon	"
275	British Solomon Islands	1898–99
276	Gibraltar...	1898
277	Bahamas...	"
278	British Honduras	"
279	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
280	Grenada	"
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282	Hong Kong	"
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285	Seychelles	"
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287	Straits Settlements	1898
288	Basutoland	1898–99
289	Niger Coast Protectorate	"
290	British Guiana	1897–98 & 1898–99
291	Falkland Islands	1899
292	British New Guinea	1898–99
293	Bermuda	1899

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast...	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.

No. 294.

BARBADOS, 1899.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1898, *see* No. 262.)

GOVERNOR SIR J. S. HAY to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,
10th May, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Blue Book of the Colony, together with a copy of a letter from the Colonial Secretary covering his Report thereon for the year 1899.

I have, &c.,
J. S. HAY.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados,
9th May, 1900.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to enclose my Report upon the Colony of Barbados for the year 1899.

I have, &c.,
RALPH WILLIAMS,
Colonial Secretary.

His Excellency
SIR J. S. HAY, K.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c.

Barbados, 1899.

BLUE BOOK REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1899.

FINANCIAL.

(A.) Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The total Revenue of the Colony for the year 1899 was £216,022. The estimated Revenue was £172,461, showing that Revenue received exceeded Revenue estimated by £43,561.

The Revenue for 1898 was £182,682. Therefore the Revenue for 1899 exceeded the Revenue for 1898 by £33,340.

It is necessary to explain this.

In 1899 the Imperial Government gave the Colonial Government a grant of £40,000 to restore damage done by the hurricane in 1898.

It follows then that had it not been for this grant the Revenue for 1899 would have amounted, not to £216,022, but to £176,022, which is £6,660 less than the Revenue for 1898.

It is necessary to bear this in mind in considering the financial condition of the Colony.

A few increases and decreases need comment.

Customs shows a decrease of receipts amounting to £2,339, due principally to a falling off in "tonnage and import dues."

The falling off in "tonnage" is mainly due to a short crop of sugar in 1899, as compared with 1898, amounting to 7,300 hogsheads, while the falling off in "imports" was due to general circumstances.

Port and Harbour shows a decrease of £841.

Excise (duty on rum) shows a decrease of £3,336, less rum having been made in 1899.

Post Office shows a decrease of £1,936, due largely to the adoption of Imperial penny postage, and partly to a lesser sale of stamps; sales having been very brisk to collectors in 1898, consequent on the Jubilee issue, the printing of which has now been discontinued.

Reimbursements in aid show an increase of £1,449, which is principally due to money repaid by the Imperial Government to the Colony in respect of expenditure previously incurred by the Colony for agricultural experiments.

Interest shows a decrease of £666. This is consequent on the capital sum still available for waterworks construction being gradually lessened by continuous expenditure.

Special receipts. With this item I have already dealt. It includes the free grant of £40,000.

The following are the receipts under the principal heads of Revenue for the past five years.

—	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	82,529	104,191	106,880	106,709	104,370
Port and harbour	3,239	3,787	4,235	3,972	3,130
Excise	25,666	27,461	32,226	32,461	29,124
Licences	6,012	5,569	5,622	5,385	5,466
Police tax	3,603	3,880	3,893	4,050	3,811
Fees and fines and fees of office.	4,671	5,547	5,111	5,297	5,875
Post Office	6,594	7,218	8,048	8,190	6,253
Miscellaneous	7,734	9,052	9,169	7,042	47,926
Water works	6,267	10,327	9,522	9,576	10,062
Total	146,315	177,032	184,706	182,682	216,017

Expenditure.

The total actual Expenditure for 1899 was £207,883.

The estimated Expenditure for 1899 was £176,189. Thus actual Expenditure exceeded estimated expenditure by £31,694.

The Expenditure for 1898 was £185,840. Thus the Expenditure for 1899 exceeded the Expenditure for 1898 by £22,043.

The explanation previously given as to the Revenue is also applicable to Expenditure.

Account must be taken of the following extraordinary items of expenditure consequent on the hurricane:—

	£
Repairs to telephones	53
Rebuilding labourers' huts	28,099
Repairs to schools	2,529
Repairs to swing bridge	269
Salary of special engineer	212
Building of temporary bridge	146
Repairs to public buildings	103
Relief to hurricane sufferers	32
Amounting in all to	31,443.

If, therefore, we eliminate this amount from Expenditure, it would indicate that the Expenditure of the Colony on its normal lines amounted, not to £207,883, but to £176,440, that is to say, to £9,400 less than the Expenditure for 1898.

The principal increases and decreases which appear to need comment are as under:—

The Governor's Department shows a decrease of £289, due to lesser cost of repairs to Government House and to partially lapsed salary of the Private Secretary.

The Colonial Secretary's department shows a decrease of £102, due partly to the working of the Retrenchment Act and partly to official economy.

The Colonial Treasurer's department shows a decrease of £161, mainly due to the reduction of the salary of the new Colonial Treasurer from £1,000 to £600 annually.

Customs shows an increase of £745, due to increased drawbacks on goods exported.

Post Office shows a decrease of £456. In 1898 the Post Office had to incur the cost of the Jubilee "dies" and printing. This, of course, did not recur in 1899. A lesser sum was also paid in 1899 in respect to gratuities for ships' letters.

Public Market shows an increase of £396, due to the partial erection of the new market building.

Fire Brigade shows an increase of £68, due to repairs to Fire Brigade stations.

Lighthouses show a decrease of £163. In 1898 repairs consequent on the hurricane caused expenditure on this head to be exceptionally high.

Legal departments show a decrease of £472, due partly to a reduction in a police magistrate's salary, partly to a lesser expenditure on witnesses, but mainly to a lesser cost of Circuit Court of Appeal, which latter was very heavy in 1898.

Police shows a decrease of £641, due to a saving in clothing and fewer repairs to police stations.

Prisons show a decrease of £129, due to discontinuance of the cooperage work, which did not pay.

Ecclesiastical shows a decrease of £988, due chiefly to the vacancy in the office of Bishop and the partial vacancy in the rectory of St. Joseph.

Education shows an increase of £332. It appears that a portion of the grants due for 1898 were not drawn, while all grants were drawn in 1899.

Medical departments show an increase of £972, due to the greater cost of provisions, &c., for the Lunatic Asylum and Lazaretto, and also to the expenditure of £200 for an improved water service for the Lazaretto.

Water works show an increase of £1,089, due to increased pumping to serve the new high level system, as well as consequent on the exceptional drought of 1899.

Pensions show an increase of £438, due to ordinary causes.

Subsidies and grants show a decrease of £226, due simply to the various periods at which payment was made.

Miscellaneous shows an increase of £24,479, due to the extraordinary expenditure out of the free grant of £40,000.

To summarise:—

	£
Revenue for 1899 was	216,022
Expenditure for 1899 was	207,883
Showing an excess of Revenue over Expenditure of	8,139

But in the above connexion it must not be forgotten that this balance is practically hypothecated for the rebuilding of bridges and repairs to Pier Head, which work is actually in progress and well advanced.

Thanks to the aid of the Imperial Government, the Colony has held its own fairly well, and apart from extraordinary conditions the normal revenue and expenditure have fairly balanced,

Barbados, 1899.

but the prospects of trade at the conclusion of 1899 augur somewhat ill for the Colony financially in 1900.

The total Expenditure for the last five years was as follows:—

1895.	1896.	1897.	1898	1899.
£	£	£	£	£
152,089	184,020	172,551	185,840	207,888

(B.) *Taxation.*

No change in taxation has been made in 1899.

(C,) *Assets and Liabilities.*

	£
Assets on the 31st of December 1899, amounted to	26,989
Liabilities on the same date amounted to ...	1,137
Showing a balance of Assets over Liabilities of	25,852

(D.) *Public Debt.*

The Public Debt on the 31st of December, 1899, was £414,000, being £375,000 for water works and £39,000 for public works.

There was no increase of the Public Debt during the year 1899.

The amounts to the credit of the Sinking Funds on the same date were:—

	£
Water Works Loan	17,734
Public Works Loan	19,476

(E.) *Currency.*

English money is in universal use, and all Government accounts are kept in sterling.

Merchants for the most part keep their accounts in American currency.

The Colonial Bank is the only bank in the Colony. All Government accounts are kept there. The notes of this bank are in general use.

(F.) *Public Works.*

The total expenditure under this head amounts to £3,740 for 1899.

No work was done on the wharf walls, nor was there any dredging of the Careenage, there being no dredger during a large part of the year, and the dredger, when it did arrive being required for bridge restoration.

The most important works under construction were the swing bridge, the pier head, and the building of the new market, work on which was begun late in the year 1899.

(G.) *Public Works.—"Waterworks Construction."*

The construction and extension of the water works has been continued at a cost, in 1899, of £10,570.

It was expected that the construction, so far as present approved plans go, would have been finished by the end of 1899, but some work still remains to be done.

(H.) *Public Works.—"Waterworks Maintenance."*

The total expenditure under this head for the year 1899 amounted to £25,105. As against this the water works earned in 1899, from all sources, a sum of £10,062, so that the working results show a loss of £15,043.

But in return for that deficiency the Colony effectively distributes free water to about 180,000 persons, scattered over the whole Island, at a cost to the Colony of (say) 1*s.* 8*d.* per head.

~~It also maintains a service (on payment) for trade houses and~~ private houses of the better classes, and supplies the shipping as well as the Naval and Military Services.

(I.) *Pensions.*

The total amount of payments made in respect to pensions to public officers amounted in 1899 to £6,262, as compared with £5,824 in 1898.

This includes not only pensions paid to retired officers, but also payments made under the Pensions Act of 1890 on behalf of officers actually serving.

The increase is mainly due to the pensioning off of the rector of St. Joseph and the senior police magistrate of Bridgetown.

BARBADOS,
1899.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The total value of the imports of the Colony in 1899 amounted to £998,006, as compared with £1,058,885 in 1898, showing a falling off in value of £60,879.

Imports valued at £429,147 came from the United Kingdom as compared with £428,063 in 1898, at £135,417 from British Colonies as compared with £205,232 in 1898, and at £433,441 from foreign countries as compared with £425,590 in 1898.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1895 to 1899 inclusive:—

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£
1895	956,921	391,434	184,154	381,333
1896	1,048,887	467,649	181,644	399,594
1897	1,008,699	474,622	182,829	351,248
1898	1,058,885	428,063	205,232	425,590
1899	998,007	429,146	135,417	433,441

From this it will be seen that our imports from the United Kingdom have hardly varied, our imports from British colonies have fallen off to the value of about £60,000, and our imports from foreign countries have increased about £8,000.

The loss of value of £60,000 on imports from British colonies is due principally as under:—

			£
From Calcutta	Rice	say	16,000
From British North America	Lumber	„	5,000
	Fish	„	25,700
	Flour	„	3,800
From British West Indies	Coffee	„	2,673
	Wines in wood	„	1,050

The great falling off in rice and fish argues that the poor find it harder to live than heretofore, these articles, in addition to sweet potatoes and corn meal, being usually used by them.

The imports from foreign countries are mainly from the United States, but inasmuch as imports from that country actually show a falling off of about £4,000, we must look elsewhere for the increase in respect to "Foreign Countries," and we find it mainly in the increased import of manures from Peru and Brazil.

Incidental to imports I draw attention to the entry which shows imports from Germany as valued at £957. In my opinion this is fallacious. For instance, a shipment of goods comes from a British manufacturer, with a British invoice, on a British ship, from a British port. The invoice makes no mention of the origin of the goods, in default of which they appear as British goods. If they are marked either "made in Germany" or "made abroad," and the cases are closely examined, all is well, but I am informed that considerable quantities of goods come which are undoubtedly made in Germany, but without any marks. These goods having passed through England in bond, are not, I gather, examined there, so that, when re-shipped to us under a British invoice they come to us as British goods.

It would be advantageous to us as well as to other colonies if British exporters were compelled to invoice their goods, with their country of origin. We should then be able to collect a duty which is impossible now, Germany would not derive the advantage of the most favoured nation treatment without giving us anything in return, and the British manufacturer and workman would be protected from an unjust competition.

The same remarks would, in a far lesser degree, apply to France, but in this respect the class of goods is more easily identified and traceable.

Exports.

The total value of the exports of the Colony in 1899 amounted to £845,590, of which £610,405 represented produce of the Colony, and £235,185 British, foreign, and other produce in transit and through bond, as compared in 1898 with a total value of exports amounting to £769,231, of which £542,483 represented produce of the Colony and £226,748 produce in transit and through bond.

Thus there was an increase in 1899 of the total value of exports amounting to £76,359, being made up of an increase in value of Barbadian products exported amounting to £67,922 and an increase in value of other exports amounting to £8,437.

This needs explanation, and I will deal with our local exportation first.

Our Barbadian products are nearly entirely sugar and molasses.

Sugar.

In 1899 there were exported 43,907 tons of Muscovado sugar as compared with, in 1898, 52,009 tons of Muscovado sugar, and 2,312 tons of dry sugar in 1899 as compared with 1,566 tons of dry sugar in 1898. So that 1899 shows a falling off in quantity of Muscovado sugar amounting to 8,102 tons, while it shows an increase in quantity of dry sugar of 746 tons. The crop therefore was as a whole not nearly as good in 1899 as in 1898; but its value was sensibly greater.

	£
In 1899 43,907 tons of Muscovado sugar valued at £10 per ton realised	439,070
In 1898 52,009 tons of Muscovado sugar valued at £8 per ton realised	416,072
Showing an appreciation of value in 1899 of Muscovado sugar amounting to	22,998
In 1899 2,312 tons of dry sugar valued at £15 per ton realised	34,680
In 1898 1,566 tons of dry sugar valued at £12 per ton realised	18,792
Showing an appreciation of value in 1899 in dry sugar amounting to	15,888
Thus there was an increase of value in Muscovado sugar amounting to	22,998
An increase of value in dry sugar amounting to	15,888
Showing a total increase in value of exported sugar amounting to	38,886

Molasses.

In 1899 there were exported 29,134 puncheons of molasses, as compared with, in 1898, 34,123 puncheons, so that in quantity molasses shows a falling off in 1899 as compared with 1898 of 4,989 puncheons, but in value it is otherwise.

	£
In 1899 29,134 puncheons of molasses valued at £3 15s. per puncheon realised ...	109,252
In 1898 34,123 puncheons of molasses valued at £2 14s. 2d. per puncheon realised...	92,416
Showing an increase in value of molasses in 1899 as compared with 1898 amounting to...	16,836

Thus there was—

	£
Increase in value of sugar	38,886
Increase in value of molasses	16,836
Total increase in value of sugar and molasses...	55,722

So that while there was an increase in value of Barbadian exports in 1899 amounting to £67,922, the above shows that £55,722 was due to increase in value on sugar and molasses, while a value of £12,200 was due to increase from other sources, as follows:—

		£
Manjak, a lesser quantity exported, but at a higher value, increase		2,297
Vegetables	„	4,309
Hides	„	705
Lime	„	1,882
Oxen, cows, &c.	„	1,229
Swine	„	700
Tamarinds	„	500
Sundries	„	1,283
Showing further increases of		12,905

As against this there are a few slight decreases, but the foregoing is sufficient to show why Barbados, in a bad crop season, shows a greater value in exportation of local produce.

Barbados, 1899.

The following table shows the destination of the exports of Barbados' products for five years from 1895 to 1899, both inclusive. This table does not deal with any export other than Barbadian products:—

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1895	64,794	107,866	221,931	394,591
1896	33,521	132,794	411,052	577,367
1897	26,515	100,414	428,466	555,395
1898	12,761	126,856	402,866	542,483
1899	13,834	131,580	464,991	610,405

There is no appreciable change in the destination of the products, foreign countries, *i.e.*, practically the United States of America, taking far the largest share; and it will be seen by this table how utterly dependent we are on the United States for our living. I have already pointed out that there was an increase in 1899 over 1898 of the value of exports other than Barbadian exports amounting to £8,437. This is mainly due to the increase in the exports of manure, which increase amounts in value to £6,739.

Imports and Exports.

The following table shews the total trade (import and export) with the United Kingdom, the British colonies, and foreign countries from 1895 to 1899 both inclusive.

Year.	With the United Kingdom.			With British Colonies.			With Foreign Countries.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1895	391,435	69,760	461,195	184,153	262,991	447,144	381,332	254,547	635,879
1896	467,649	38,520	506,169	181,644	274,813	456,457	399,594	444,895	844,489
1897	474,622	33,972	508,594	182,829	231,839	414,668	351,248	470,352	821,600
1898	428,063	35,207	463,270	205,232	288,117	493,349	425,590	445,906	871,496
1899	429,148	50,630	479,778	135,417	301,204	436,621	433,442	493,756	927,198

BARBADOS, 1899.

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES, AND FISHERIES.

Mines.

There are no mines other than the workings from which manjak is obtained.

Manjak or glance pitch is a bituminous substance which appears to be of increasing value, inasmuch as, while in 1899 only 1,026 tons were exported, valued at £4,617, *i.e.*, averaging £4 10*s*. per ton, in 1898 1,160 tons were exported, valued at only £2,320, *i.e.*, averaging £2 per ton.

It is a pity that this substance cannot be obtained in greater quantity. It is constantly found, but rarely in sufficient quantity to justify a heavy expenditure. The veins, sometimes broad and promising remarkably well, suddenly fail and pinch out, having to be picked up again at much cost of dead work.

Manufactures.

There were seven rum distilleries at work in 1899, distilling in the aggregate 254,286 gallons of rum, of an approximate value (exclusive of duty) of 1*s*. 5*d*. per gallon.

The exportation of rum in 1899 amounted to 25,415 gallons, which may be valued at an average of 1*s*. 6*d*. per gallon, of which 13,415 gallons were home made, and the balance foreign rum in transit.

Exported rum is generally of a better class than that locally consumed.

There is a sulphuric acid factory in the parish of St. James, the product of which is used for the manufacture of manures locally, the making of soda water, and the refining of rum. I am informed that about 7,000 gallons of this acid were exported to British Guiana and Trinidad in 1899.

There are two chemical manure mixing factories, both for local consumption and exportation to other islands; but most of the manure locally mixed is locally used.

The materials are for the most part imported into Barbados, and a drawback is given on manure exported in respect to materials previously imported.

I am informed that about 100 labourers are employed at this work.

There is one cigar and tobacco factory on a small scale.

There was but one ice factory in 1899. I am informed that its output was approximately 3,000 tons, most of which was locally consumed and sold to the shipping, although about 417 tons was exported to the neighbouring islands.

Generally speaking, the manufactures of Barbados are insignificant.

Fisheries.

There is a large flying fish and general fishing industry, carried on mainly by the poorer classes. Approximately 250 boats are employed, whose crews would number about 1,000 persons. This industry also furnishes employment to a very large number of persons engaged in the sale of fish. Fish forms a very important staple food to the poorer classes during a large part of the year. The whole of the fish taken is locally consumed.

There are two very small whale fishing ventures, the joint exportation of which, in 1899, amounted to 254 barrels of oil, as compared with 193 barrels in 1898.

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The production of sugar is practically the only important agricultural industry, and on it the Colony relies. Cereal and root crops are grown for local consumption, and are exported in small quantities, but not to an important extent.

The Botanical Station, on its original small scale, is still carried on by the Colony, but practically all important botanical matters are now the province of Dr. Morris, the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture.

(D.) LAND GRANTS.

There are no land grants. The condition of the sugar industry is such that it is difficult to estimate the value of land, and sales, when made, depend much on a number of extraneous matters unknown to the public. The Master in Chancery, whose experience is very great, is of opinion that the average value of plantation land for agricultural purposes is from £18 to £20 per acre, inclusive of buildings, machinery, stock, and growing crops.

(E.) SHIPPING.

The total number of vessels which entered and cleared during the year 1899, in comparison with 1898, is shown in the following tables:—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing vessels.	Tons.	Steam vessels.	Tons.	Total vessels.	Total tonnage.
1898 ...	779	92,339	354	568,470	1,133	660,809
1899 ...	672	71,833	355	560,720	1,027	632,553

BARBADOS,
1899.

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing vessels.	Tons.	Steam vessels.	Tons.	Total. vessels.	Total tonnage.
1898 ...	771	90,735	354	568,470	1,125	659,205
1899 ...	674	72,144	355	560,720	1,029	632,864

The above returns show the number of vessels which have technically "entered" and "cleared," but, as vessels have 24 hours' time allowance before they need "enter," a larger number actually visit Barbados and transact business here than appear in the above returns.

The details will be found in the Harbour Master's return on page 17 of the Blue Book, which shows a total of arrivals of 1,529 vessels, with a total tonnage of 908,995 tons.

The following tables give a comparative statement of shipping entered and cleared for five years from 1895 to 1899, both inclusive.

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1895	739	84,938	329	499,768	1,068	584,706
1896	798	89,430	354	542,119	1,152	631,549
1897	812	92,760	376	576,507	1,188	669,267
1898	779	92,339	354	568,470	1,133	660,809
1899	672	71,833	355	560,720	1,027	632,553

Cleared.

Year	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1895	736	84,777	330	500,418	1,066	585,195
1896	800	89,340	355	543,127	1,155	632,467
1897	819	90,188	376	576,507	1,195	666,695
1898	771	90,735	354	568,470	1,125	659,205
1899	674	72,144	355	560,720	1,029	632,864

III.—LEGISLATION.

Forty-two Acts were passed in 1899.

Act No. 15, of the 21st of March, was passed to enable plantation owners to utilise the Imperial Loan of £50,000 for the restoration of their works and buildings, but it is to be regretted that the action of the Colonial Bank prevented persons from taking advantage of the Act, and only about £11,000 was borrowed.

Act. No. 16, of the 21st of June, was to re-adjust the incidence of the Tariff and bring it into line with the Reciprocity treaty under negotiation with the United States of America.

Act No. 18, of the 13th of July, was passed with the same object as No. 16.

Act No. 19, of the 26th of July, bears reference to Act No. 15, of the 21st March, 1899, above referred to, and was framed to get over borrowers' difficulties.

Act No. 26, of the 19th of October, was to make better provision for the giving of security by public officers, the previous practice having been found both costly and unsatisfactory.

BARBADOS,
1899.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The total expenditure in 1899 on education was £16,692, as compared with £16,360 in 1898, of which £10,441 was spent on elementary education for teachers' salaries, as compared with £10,361 on teachers' salaries in 1898. A sum of £559 was also spent in 1899 on books, fittings, &c., as compared with a sum of £639 in 1898 for similar purposes.

In addition to the Government grant of £11,000, the elementary school teachers collected £1,150 in school pence.

There are first grade, second grade, and elementary schools.

The first grade schools are Harrison College, the Lodge School, and Queen's College, the latter being for girls only.

The second grade schools are Combermere School, Coleridge School, Parry School, Alleyne School, for boys, and the Alexandra and Victoria Schools, for girls only.

At the end of 1899 there were 171 elementary schools.

The number of children on the roll of elementary schools in 1899 was 25,334, as compared with 27,776 in 1898, with an average attendance of 14,978 in 1899, as compared with 14,734 in 1898. The falling off in the total numbers of 1899 is due to the hurricane of 1898, the effects of which were felt for the first half of 1899, but the average attendance was, it will be seen, better in 1899 than 1898.

There was an extraordinary expenditure of £2,530 on elementary school buildings damaged or destroyed by the hurricane of 1898. This amount forms part of the £40,000 granted by the Imperial Government to the Colony. There are four schools still to be rebuilt, the cost of which will also be defrayed from the Imperial grant.

Steps were taken in 1899 towards the introduction of agricultural teaching in elementary schools, which form of teaching, it is hoped, will shortly become a part of the regular curriculum in all the boys' schools of the Colony. The teachers of elementary schools manifest great interest in the subject. An agricultural science class has been in existence at Harrison College for several years.

Codrington College was threatened in 1899 with extinction, owing to the fall in the value of its estates. Thanks, however, to subscriptions raised in England, the worst has been tided over, and it is hoped that this old foundation may still be carried on. It is affiliated to the Durham University, and degrees are granted by the Durham Senate to those Codrington students who locally pass the necessary examinations.

V.—INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) AND (B.) HOSPITALS AND ASYLUMS.

The general hospital is not a Government Institution, although it receives an annual grant from the Government, amounting to £6,630.

The annual report of the Board is published in the Official Gazette of the Colony.

The hospital is under the control of a body of directors, of whom the Governor is *ex officio* one. The number of directors appearing in the Statute Book is twenty, an excessive number and wholly unwieldy, with the natural result that many of the directors attend but seldom, and the practical management has passed into the hands of a very few.

The lunatic asylum is a Government institution. It was built in 1891, and is excellently managed by its most capable medical superintendent, Dr. Field.

The leper lazaretto is also a Government institution. Such as it is, it is well managed by the superintendent, Mr. Winter, but the buildings, site, and arrangements are thoroughly unsatisfactory, and it is high time that new arrangements should be made. The Government is not losing sight of the great need of the Colony in this respect, which is accentuated by the undoubted increase of leprosy.

The expenditure on the general hospital, the lunatic asylum, and the lazaretto for 1899, as compared with 1898, was as under; the increase of expenditure on the lunatic asylum and lazaretto is due to increased cost of provisions, while the expenditure on the lazaretto is additionally increased by the cost of an improved water service, previously referred to.

—	1899.	1898.
	£	£
General Hospital	7,045	6,999
Lunatic Asylum...	5,590	5,129
Lazaretto	2,903	2,548

BARBADOS,
1899.

I append a statistical table for 1899:—

—	Discharges.	Deaths.	Daily Average.
General Hospital	3,188	210	209
Lunatic Asylum	44	43	352
Lazaretto	1	22	111

(C.) POOR HOUSES.

The poorhouses are purely parochial institutions.

They are eleven in number, and I regard them as well managed, the vestries as a rule fully appreciating the trust of local self-government which they enjoy, and taking an interest in their work.

The St. Michael's poorhouse is an exceptionally fine building, and excellently managed. It is, if anything, too large for its purpose.

The total expenditure on parochial institutions and poor relief in 1899, as given by the Poor Law Inspector, was £16,749, as compared with £17,274 in 1898.

The admissions into the institutions in 1899 were 2,576, as compared with 3,029 admissions in 1898.

The year 1898 was an exceptional year, due to the hurricane.

(D.) REFORMATORY.

The cost of the Reformatory in 1899 was £1,561, as compared with £1,598 in 1898.

The number of boys was 123, as compared with 116 in 1898.

There is much difficulty in getting the boys indentured as labourers in other colonies, there being a strong prejudice against them.

(E.) SAVINGS BANK.

The number of depositors on the 31st of December, 1899, was 13,270, having an aggregate sum of £223,417 to their credit, as compared with 12,859 depositors in 1898, having £220,831 to their credit.

The assets of the Savings Bank on the 31st of December, 1899, amounted to £237,663, consisting of investments in inscribed stock and £26,000 Barbados Government debentures, together with investments to the amount of £9,774 in mortgages on property in Barbados.

The assets on the same date in 1898 amounted to £234,410.

The above valuations are the price paid, and not the market price.

Incidental to this, it is fair to state that the market price of 31st December, 1899, does not show as handsome an increase of value as that of 1898, but this is due to a depreciation of all, even the best, securities, consequent on the war in South Africa.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

The force consists of an inspector, a sub-inspector, 2 sergeant-majors, 12 sergeants, 24 corporals, and 315 constables. This includes both land and water police.

The cost of the force in 1899 was:—

	£
Salaries	17,638
Premiums under Pension Act	113
Pensions	1,202
Other expenditure	4,550
Total	23,503

The difference as compared with 1898 is explained by an error in the Report of 1898 which included a sum under Pensions twice over.

(B.) PRISONS.

The total cost of Glendairy Prison, which is the only one in Barbados, was, in 1899, £5,039, as compared with £5,169 in 1898.

The number of prisoners was 3,744, as compared with 3,538 in 1898.

The estimated value of the labour of males in 1899 was—

	£
Outside	1,138
Inside	426
Inside, estimated saving on Bakery	813
	2,377
The estimated value of female labour was ...	161
Showing a grand total of	2,538

as compared with a total value of labour in 1898 of £1,824.

Much valuable outside work was done by the convicts in 1899.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Population.

The census for 1891 showed a population as under:—

Whites.			Coloured.			Total Population.
Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
7,339	8,274	15,613	73,766	92,927	166,693	182,306

I estimate the population at about 192,000.

The total number of registered births in 1899 was 7,038, of which 3,240 were legitimate and 3,798 illegitimate, as compared with a total number of registered births in 1898 of 7,159.

It will be thus seen that there were 121 births less in 1899 than in 1898. The total number of burials (there is no death registration) in 1899 was 4,968, showing a death rate (if population is estimated at 192,000) of 25·87 per thousand.

The total number of burials in 1898 was 7,415.

It will thus be seen that there were 2,447 less burials in 1899 than in 1898, while there were 2,070 more births than there were burials in 1899.

As I pointed out in my Report for 1898, that year was an abnormal year, the predominance of burials over births being without precedent in Barbados.

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

This is dealt with in detail in the Poor Law Inspector's Report.

Generally speaking, the public health was good, but in October and November there was an epidemic of diarrhœa and dysentery, especially among the poorer classes, causing mortality amongst the very young and very old.

(C.) SANITATION.

The sanitation of the Colony is primarily controlled by the Central Board of Health, appointed by the Governor.

The detailed working is carried out by local boards in each parish (appointed, as a rule, from among the members of the vestry) working under approved sanitary byelaws.

(D.) CLIMATE.

The climate is as a rule healthy. The circumstances of the Island are different from those of its neighbours. It is, as they are, extremely hot, but the coral formation, the complete cultivation, and the pure water, added to the unimpeded action of the trade winds, fresh from the Atlantic, all unite to create a healthy comunity.

1. The total rainfall of 1899, taken at the Botanical Station, was 49·55 inches, with 191 wet days, as compared with 64·55 inches and 205 wet days in 1898. The lack of rain promises to be a serious matter for the water supply of the Colony, unless 1900 helps us with timely and sufficient rains to restore our normal condition.

2. The mean barometrical pressure was 29·927.

3. The mean temperature was 78·9.

4. The mean velocity of the wind was nine miles an hour.

Observations at the Botanical Station show that the wind was E., E. by N. or E.N.E., for 216 days, E. by S. or E.S.E. for 52 days, N., N.E., or N.N.E., 34 days, S., S.E., or S.S.E., 51 days, S.W., S.S.W., and in a south-westerly quarter for the remaining days.

VIII.—(A.) POSTAL SERVICE.

The revenue of the Post Office in 1899 was £6,254, compared with a revenue of £8,190 in 1898.

In my remarks on "General Revenue" I have explained the reason of this.

The expenditure in 1899 was £9,255, as compared with £9,712 in 1898.

Thus, expenditure exceeded revenue by £3,001.

The Postal Service of Barbados is always worked at a loss. It is due to the great cost of conveyance of mails abroad.

In 1899 the Colony paid to the General Post Office, London, and to the post offices of other countries a sum of £3,948 in respect of conveyance of mails, of which £2,160 was paid in respect of the loss on the Royal Mail contract.

Imperial penny postage has been in force throughout the year.

There has been a considerable increase in correspondence, especially in intercolonial correspondence, but not sufficient to make up the loss sustained by the cheaper rate.

The sum of £22,000 was paid in the Colony on money orders from other parts of the British West Indies.

A great part of this money is remitted by Barbadian labourers, working elsewhere, to their families in Barbados.

(B.) Telegraph Service.

There is no inland telegraph service.

There is only one cable company directly connecting Barbados with the outside world, *i. e.*, the West India and Panama Cable Company, which company drew a subsidy in 1899 of £2,500.

The Act of the Legislature which contracted for the payment of this sum only made provision up to the 31st of December, 1899.

The Direct West India Cable Company has a telegraph line connecting Bermuda and Jamaica, thus avoiding the necessity of messages being sent *viâ* the United States, but, as messages must still pass over the French and Danish Islands, the British West Indies, with the exception of Jamaica and Turks Island, are without the advantage of an all British line.

(C.) Telephone Service.

There is a telephone service throughout the Island, worked by a private company at moderate rates, with an approximate length of wire of 600 miles.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

Despite the fears expressed each year that the troops will be moved to St. Lucia, Barbados is still a military station, although the number of the troops has been diminished.

The garrison consisted in 1899 of headquarters and four companies of a British regiment (the 1st Battalion Leinster Regiment), and of two companies of a West India regiment, the whole under the command of a Major-General, whose active military command includes also St. Lucia, where there are a considerable number of troops.

The General's functions extend to all the British West India Islands (except Jamaica and Turks Island), and also to British Guiana.

The total amount paid in 1899 by the Imperial Government for the garrisons of Barbados and St. Lucia was £127,386, of which £52,686 was spent on the upkeep of the troops in Barbados.

The loss of troops will be felt severely, both financially and socially.

X.—FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The number of friendly societies on the register, as shown in the half-yearly report on the 31st of December, 1899, was 155, as compared with 154 in 1898.

There is nothing connected with these societies which calls for special comment in 1899.

XI.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

The total cost of ecclesiastical establishments in 1899 was:—

	£
Anglican	9,240
Wesleyan	700
Moravian	400
Roman Catholic	50
	10,390

The Anglican Church of Barbados suffered a severe loss by the death of Bishop Bree in January, 1899. He had held office for 17 years.

He was a type of the old time ecclesiastic of the best class, and had gained the affectionate regard of all sections of the community.

During the month of December news reached the Colony that Bishop Swaby, of British Guiana, had been selected to succeed him.

During the year Bishop Hayes, of Trinidad, visited the Colony for the performance of certain episcopal functions.

XII.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

In August, 1899, the Colony was deprived by death of the services of Mr. John Howell, the Colonial Treasurer. Mr. Howell had held this office for the long period of 39 years, having been annually re-elected thereto by the House of Assembly. He was held in honourable esteem in the Colony, and it may be truly said of him that he was the friend of all, and that all mourned his loss.

The House of Assembly elected its clerk, Mr. Lambert Phillips, to be the new Colonial Treasurer.

Major Kaye was appointed to be Inspector of Police, in place of Mr. C. J. Lawrance.

There were no acting appointments in 1899 calling for special mention.

XIII.—COUNCILS AND ASSEMBLIES.

There was no change in the Legislative Council.

Mr. F. J. Clarke was re-elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

XIV.—FOREIGN CONSULS.

Mr. Gardiner Austin was appointed Consul for Denmark, Mr. Parravicino Consul for Hayti, and also for Venezuela.

No other changes took place.

XV.—POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

The qualifications for the franchise are detailed in the annual Blue Book, at page L., 1.

The total number of electors was 2,044, as compared with 1,922 in 1898.

Barbados, 1899.

XVI.—GENERAL REMARKS.

The year 1899 has been somewhat barren of incident: uneventful in commerce, unremunerative in agriculture, and socially depressing. Dwindling incomes make economy imperative, and the effect is felt in the everyday life of the place.

Thanks to the aid received from home the Colony has been able to begin the work of rebuilding its two most important bridges, and repairing the pier head, all so damaged in 1898.

The month of January was notable for the conference, summoned by Dr. Morris, the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture, of the representatives of agricultural and educational work in the West Indian Colonies and British Guiana. The time allowed for discussion (two days only) was short, but the experiment was interesting, and it is hoped that it will be repeated year by year and will lead to good results. Each colony is apt to get into a groove, and there is no doubt that technical discussion by competent men will lead towards better methods of general cultivation and instruction. The scope of the Department of Agriculture has largely increased during the year, and the Imperial Government is sparing neither pains nor expense in its efforts towards improved methods. If the work of the Department of Agriculture teaches us how to grow our canes cheaper, and with better results, the care and money spent on it will be amply repaid.

But, despite all this, the outlook is very black, and even now, after all the discussion that has taken place, the exact condition of the sugar industry of the Colony is hardly understood.

I do not propose to refer to the bounty question, which has been thoroughly thrashed out, and which time and opportunity only can solve. It is with regard to the local position that I want to make things clear.

I admit at once the improvidence of byegone planters, which is exactly on a par with that of our old landholders at home. Until recently a few hundred acres brought in the income of a fairly prosperous squire in England. The methods of labour may have been antiquated, and the machinery ineffective, but the people had to be fed, and profit was still substantial; why then, it was argued, launch into perilous experiments, when letting well alone resulted in abundant comfort? Acting on this principle, younger children were portioned off, mortgages were laid on estates, new estates were bought and only partly paid for, the balance remaining on mortgage, and so long as the price of sugar kept up all went well.

Then came beet sugar. There is an impression abroad that beet sugar can be grown cheaper than cane sugar, but I am assured that it is not so. Apart from the question of bounties, beet sugar costs as much as cane sugar to put on the market. The trouble of beet sugar is that it at once opens up an illimitable area in a temperate climate for the production of an article hitherto only grown in a tropical or semi-tropical region. An undreamt-of competition has been thus imposed upon the planters in a moment.

Had the planters been able to foresee, and had they at the first outset combined towards general improvement, it is possible that their credit might have enabled them to raise money for improved machinery and methods to meet competition. But who could have gauged what has actually happened, and realised the break-up of an industry in a few short years? Step by step came a fall in prices, then bounties, then improved methods by capitalists and companies in other lands, until at last the Barbados planter found himself overloaded with encumbrances, stripped of profit, and obliged to face a condition of things long dreaded, but hitherto shelved.

A very potent factor in Barbados is the population question. I believe it is a fact that, under laws and conditions other than our local practice, labour could sometimes be dispensed with, but the patriarchal system is not quite dead in Barbados, and labour on an estate is, to a certain extent, claimed as a right by those living on it. In any case, the people must be fed somehow, and a labour-saving policy will have to be met by the provision of a living for the poor by some other means.

I have stated the foregoing to show as well as I can the real position of our industry—old machinery, old methods, hopeless encumbrances, a superabundant population, all faced by every kind of modern improvement, as well as by all the resources of capital and the fictitious aid of the bounties. That is how we stand now, but that is far from being the worst of it.

Under existing conditions such sugar as we make mainly finds a market in the United States, where the fiscal policy gives us, for the moment, an opening. Canada, it is true, gives us a limited preferential treatment, but two main obstacles occur to a trade with Canada, firstly, the prohibitive cargo rates, and, secondly, the fact that Canadian refiners do not care to buy the Muscovado sugar as we manufacture it. There are other questions of class of package and so forth, but those are the two vital objections. So that, as I said, the United States is our only practical market. But she will only extend her treatment to us just so long as it suits her, and with an increasing production within her own borders, with Puerto Rico practically an American colony, and Cuba but little short of it (in both of which islands the cultivation of sugar will, with the aid of American capital and American brains, advance by leaps and bounds), we are justified in a fear that in a very few years the United States will shut her doors to us, and that our last market for the quality of sugar we now make will be gone from us.

Excluding, then, the question of England countervailing foreign bounties, what is left? The answer is, of course, central factories; central factories, not only to extract more juice out of the cane, but to enable us to produce the quality of sugar which will permit us to tap the markets of Canada, and even give us hope of taking our sugar profitably to the United Kingdom.

It is not necessary to become suppliants to capitalists at home to attain this end. Capitalists are not philanthropists. They are simply men who want to extract as much money as possible out of any enterprise in which they engage. If we can possibly do without capitalists at the start, so much the better for Barbados. Later on, when we have done something for ourselves, and are in a position to make better terms under a restored credit, we should welcome the capital which is now only grudgingly offered at a ruinous cost.

It remains, then, to be seen how we can manage to do without this aid. Factories, if erected, must be paid for either by the co-operative efforts of planters, by the Imperial Government, by the local Government aided by a limited guarantee of the Imperial Government, or by the local Government alone.

The planters cannot raise the money, and assuming that the Imperial Government will not, it only remains for the local Government to do so, with or without aid from the Imperial Government, on the credit of its own resources. To operate on a large scale is, at present, impossible, but it is not impossible to erect a factory of such size as will very thoroughly test the question, with a result, if successful, of restoring local credit, and thus encouraging the erection of further factories.

There are three ways in which the local Government can work:—

(*a*.) Firstly, by guaranteeing a loan to groups of planters. To this there is objection on the grounds that such groups would be wholly lacking in independence, and entirely in the hands of the middlemen who control them. It would be pledging Government credit for the benefit of lenders who have outstepped discretion in their advances, rather than for the benefit of the planters direct.

(*b*.) Secondly, by the erection of a factory by Government under conditions that a sufficient number of planters would guarantee, on terms arranged, to send their canes to the factory. This would be simple enough if the planters were unhampered, but, under existing conditions, they are, for the most part, powerless to give such guarantees, and therefore special and drastic legislation would be necessary to give such power and to overcome objections by mortgagees.

(*c.*) Thirdly, by the erection of a Government factory as an open shop, a shop kept on behalf of the Colony; sugar being manufactured therein at prices reasonable to planters, the profit, if any, being a portion of the regular revenue of the State. To this objection may be taken that it amounts to a partial confiscation of the goods of the planter, but the answer is that if the planter can get a fairly remunerative return he should not grudge the State a profit in return for her risk in guaranteeing the capital enabling him to do so. There is, of course, the risk that unless a guaranteed supply was ensured plantations would not send their canes, and that the factory would be partially unemployed for the first year or two; but if factories are a success, which seems undeniable, that would soon correct itself.

In any case the time has absolutely come when something should be done unless we are to be ruined. Each year sees improvement postponed, and the inevitable end drawing nearer.

It is amazing how little it takes to distract the planter's attention from schemes of betterment. If sugar goes up but a trifle, he protests that things are going to change; if the price of molasses rises (as is the case as I write) he argues that present methods pay him better than would an improved process. He fails to remember the one fact that should be ever before him—that in a few years there will be hardly any market for what he now produces, and that his last and only hope is to manufacture a more marketable article. This question of central factories is a matter which will not admit of delay.

CANADIAN TRADE AND INTERCOLONIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

The Royal Commissioners in their enquiry recognised the need of fostering Canadian as well as intercolonial trade. To this end the Imperial Government is granting a subsidy of £13,500 annually, and the Canadian Government has contracted with Messrs. Pickford and Black to run a fortnightly line from ports in Canada to British Guiana, calling at the West India Islands en route.

If the West Indies are to benefit by this line, it is essential that freights shall be at a figure which will admit of sugar being placed at Canadian refineries at the same cost that it can be placed at the United States refineries. It may be that at the present we do not manufacture the class of sugar wanted by the Canadians, but cheaper rates would encourage us to do so.

There is, further, no reason why we should not take foodstuffs of various kinds from Canada. Many little difficulties may be in the way, but the cost of carriage underlies all, and it is not worth while to try to amend small obstacles while the one great difficulty, cost of carriage, bars the way. Again, the cost of passage should be low, and there should be a cheap passenger rate for the poorer classes of emigrants. I gather that Canada does not care for the class of emigrants we send, and it will not encourage us in this; but Barbados does want to send its people to Canada cheaply, and it wants its people to travel easily and cheaply to other islands. Inasmuch as the Imperial Government pays so large a subsidy it is not out of place to ask that the interest of the West Indies as well as of Canada shall be considered in the adjustment of rates. There is a distinct tendency now in Canadian trade circles to try to cut out the United States trade in the West Indies, and Canadians point out to us that they are the friends on whom we must ultimately rely. We admit a good deal of this, but our answer must always be that we cannot afford to eliminate our profits of to-day to build up a trade of the future. We must take our profit where we can find it; and at present our principal means of living comes from our trade with the United States.

EMIGRATION.

The abundant population of Barbados must somehow find an outlet. The labouring classes still find their way to other islands in moderate numbers, but, as I said last year, not in sufficient numbers to solve the population question, nor as real emigrants in the true sense of the word. There was considerable local criticism on this remark of mine in my last year's Report because it was misunderstood. The poorer Barbadian emigrates to a considerable extent, but not, as a rule, to make a home elsewhere. He is of a different nature to other islanders in the West Indies. His hard struggle for his daily bread, his everyday life among more or less of a crowd, where the weakest goes to the wall, have unsuited him for the purely agricultural life which would be his if he migrated to an allotment in another island where land is a drug and population is needed. He is, as a rule, fairly educated. He is not of the sort who is content to sit half clothed under the shade of a banana leaf, satisfied if only he can pluck the bare needs of life from the few trees and plants around him. He wants a good house, plenty of neighbours, a bustling life, and, as far as he can, he gets it, though his wages be small. But his nature is opposed to isolation, and nothing but hard necessity will make him become a purely agricultural settler elsewhere. When therefore it is said, "Barbados has abundant popu-

Barbados, 1899. "lation, St. Vincent and Dominica have abundant land—re-"adjust the conditions and everybody is prosperous," the speakers fail to appreciate the real conditions which have to be adjusted.

It is impossible to overlook the fact that the population is becoming very large, while the resources from which it is fed are steadily diminishing, and therefore, in my opinion, the encouragement of emigration to suitable localities is deserving of strong support by the Legislature. The condition of the poorer class of whites is becoming pressing. They are simply without resources; young men and young women, willing to work, are unable to find work; or, if they do find it, it is at such starvation prices that they can barely live. For this class the Government does what its means permit, and many emigrants are sent to the United States and Canada each year, for the most part finding work and prospering; but the aid given is but a drop in the bucket to what is needed.

Reciprocity with the United States.

It would be premature to enter at any length into the Reciprocity Treaty at present approved of by Barbados, but still under the consideration of the Senate of the United States. In order to obtain additional fiscal advantages on the importation of sugar into the States, Barbados has had to readjust its tariff, giving favourable treatment to articles produced by the States. Whether the balance of advantage will be with us or against us we have yet to learn. Many critics tell us that the 12½ per. cent. accorded to us on sugar imported into the States will never come into our pockets, but will be intercepted by middlemen. Some of it may be, but in any case the position of Barbados sugar trade is too critical for us to dare to stand outside any arrangement of the kind, lest we find the market practically closed to us. Our great and serious danger is that we are a sugar Colony and nothing else; and in this we stand in worse plight than some of the other islands, who to-day almost envy our qualified prosperity.

Ralph Williams,
Colonial Secretary.

Barbados,
7th May, 1900.

ing company, inc.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 326.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1900.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 294.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
July, 1901.

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The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
298	Bahamas	1899
299	Sierra Leone	"
300	Gambia	"
301	Seychelles	"
302	Mauritius and Rodrigues	"
303	Trinidad and Tobago	"
304	Straits Settlements	"
305	Gibraltar	"
306	Gold Coast	"
307	Ceylon	"
308	Leeward Islands	"
309	St. Helena	"
310	British Honduras	"
311	St. Lucia	1899–1900
312	St. Vincent	1899
313	Basutoland	"
314	Hong Kong	"
315	Southern Nigeria	1899–1900
316	Grenada	1899
317	Jamaica	1899–1900
318	British Guiana	"
319	Christmas Island	1900
320	British Solomon Islands	1899–1900
321	Lagos	1899
322	Bermuda	1900
323	St. Helena	"
324	Sierra Leone	"
325	Gambia	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.

No, 326.

Barbados,
1900.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1899, *see* No. 294.)

GOVERNOR SIR F. M. HODGSON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House,

7th June, 1901.

SIR,

I have the honour to enclose the Annual Report by the Acting Colonial Secretary on the Barbados Blue Book for the year ending the 31st December, 1900.

I have, &c.,

F. M. HODGSON.

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I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) Revenue and Expenditure.

Revenue.

The Revenue for the year amounted to £185,474, being in excess of the estimate by £11,734, and in excess of the Revenue for 1899, which was £176,022 (excluding the Hurricane Grant-in-Aid of £40,000) by £9,452.

In consequence of the delay in bringing into operation the Convention with the United States of America, it became necessary to repeal the Customs Tariff Act which had been passed on the 21st June, 1899, in anticipation of the Convention being signed by the United States Senate, and to introduce a new Fiscal Tariff. The tariff authorised by the Act of 1899 had resulted in a loss of revenue, and the new tariff was, therefore, designed for the purpose of restoring the financial equilibrium. Its chief features were an *advalorem* duty of 15 per cent. in place of 10 per cent., and an increase in the specific duties on many articles of import by 50 per cent. It was in contemplation to keep these higher rates in force only until the end of the year. and then to revert to the fiscal tariff in force before the passing of the Tariff Act of the 21st of June, 1899. The result has been satisfactory.

The following table gives a comparison of the sums received under the various headings of revenue during each of the last five years.

——	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs	104,191	106,880	106,709	104,370	114,255
Port and Harbour dues ...	3,787	4,235	3,972	3,130	3,267
Excise	27,461	32,226	32,461	29,124	26,973
Licences	5,569	5,622	5,385	5,466	4,774
Police tax	3,880	3,893	4,050	3,811	3,816
Fees and fines and fees of office.	5,547	5,111	5,297	5,875	6,024
Post Office	7,218	8,048	8,190	6,253	5,566
Miscellaneous	9,052	9,169	7,042	47,926	11,265
Water works	10,327	9,522	9,576	10,062	9,531
Total	177,032	184,706	182,682	216,017	185,474

Excise shows a decrease of £2,150. This is curious, as the output of rum was greater in 1900 than in 1899 by 12,835 gallons. But the export in 1900 was much heavier as I will show later. I ascribe the lesser local consumption to the decrease of purchasing power among the people, to the decrease in the number of licensed houses consequent on bad trade, and slightly to an undoubtedly greater consumption of aërated drinks by the poorer classes.

Licenses show a decrease of £692, which as far as I can judge is due to bad trade.

Post Office shows a decrease of £687. In 1899 there was a decrease below 1898 of £1,936, mainly in that year due to the introduction of the Penny Postage rate for foreign letters. The further reduction is the result of diminished sales of stamps.

Special receipts show a decrease of £38,316, due mainly to the fact that the Colony received an Imperial Free Grant in 1899 of £40,000, which was absent in 1900.

Expenditure.

The expenditure amounted to £182,865, the estimated expenditure being £187,597.

Thus estimated expenditure exceeded actual expenditure by £4,732. This is mainly due to the fact that the sum noted on the Estimates as unexpended balance of the Free Grant was not entirely spent, that £1,000 was saved in the subsidy to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, and that the sum voted in respect to "Drawbacks" exceeded the actual expenditure by £3,385.

The actual expenditure for 1899 was £207,883.

Thus actual expenditure for 1900 was less than actual expenditure for 1899 by £25,018, due mainly to the heavy expenditure incurred in 1899 in re-building of labourers' huts consequent on the hurricane of 1898.

The following are the principal increases and decreases:—

The Head "Colonial Treasurer" shows a decrease of £164 due to reduction of Treasurer's salary from £1,000 per annum to £600 per annum.

Customs shows a decrease of £3,375, due to admission to Bond in 1900 of many articles which in 1899 were duty-paid, but subject to drawback.

Post Office shows a decrease of £434, due to a lesser purchase of stamps by the Post Office in 1900 than in 1899.

Public Market shows an increase of £393, due to repairs and alterations to market. This needs some explanation. In 1900 £150 was put on the Estimates for such repairs, under the head of "Public Market," and not under "Public Works," and an amount subsequently voted by resolution of the Legislature was also included under this head. Hence the repairs of the fabric which were very large fell under the head of Market, and were not included in Public Works. This has been altered for the year 1901. Inland Revenue shows a decrease of £118, consequent upon a tentative reduction of the Staff of Inland Revenue Officers.

Legislature shows a decrease due to the reduction of the salary of the Clerk of the House of Assembly from £400 to £250 per annum.

Reformatory shows an increase of £413, due to additional expenditure in 1900 for the cultivation of Summervale. Summervale is a plantation bought by Government in 1900. It is adjacent to the Reformatory, and is worked to a large extent by the boys of the Reformatory.

Ecclesiastical shows an increase of expenditure of £317, due to the arrival of the Bishop early in 1900, the salary of the Bishop having been very largely saved in 1899, owing to the vacancy in the See.

Water Works Maintenance shows an increase of £3,265, mainly due to a sum of about £450 having to be paid for repairs to Plum Tree Tunnel, over £700 for extra pumping consequent on the extreme drought of 1900, and £1,800 (advanced from the Treasury and charged to Water Works Maintenance) being part of the cost of the new water boat "Lady Hay," which £1,800 will be repaid by annual instalments to the Treasury from the amount voted annually on the Estimates for the deterioration of water boats.

Subsidies and Grants shows a decrease of £995, due to the reduction of the annual subsidy paid to the West India and Panama Telegraph Company.

Miscellaneous shows a decrease of £23,980, due to the expenditure in 1899 under the Free Grant in re-building labourers huts, &c., as stated above.

To summarise:—

Revenue for 1900 was	£185,474
Expenditure for 1900 was	182,865
Showing an excess of Revenue over Expenditure of	£2,609

The Colony has thus paid its way well, and the administration has every reason to be satisfied with the results of the year so far as it goes, but it must be remembered that this result has only been attained by the imposition during 7½ months of 1900 of a tariff which doubtless pressed somewhat hardly on trade.

(B.) ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

Assets on the 31st December, 1900, amounted to	£33,191
Liabilities on the same date amounted to ...	4,721
Showing a balance of Assets over Liabilities amounting to	£28,470

(C.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The total amount of Public Debt on the 31st December, 1900, was £416,850, being £375,000 for Water Works and £41,850 for Public Works.

There was an increase of the public debt during the year 1900 of £2,850, which amount was raised as follows:—£2,600 towards the purchase of Summervale plantation, and £250 for repairs to wharf walls.

In the above connexion it should be noted that of the £375,000 raised for purchase and construction of Water Works, a sum of £42,096 still remains unexpended, made up as follows:—

Cash and securities	£27,239
Value of stores	14,857
Total	£42,096

There is also a Sinking Fund invested in reduction of the original loan amounting to a nominal value of £22,059.

The above sum of £42,096 is hypothecated for the purpose for which it was borrowed, and cannot be otherwise spent without the sanction of the Legislature.

The question of extending the Construction System over a wider area and supplying water to the higher levels of the Island is under consideration.

(D.) CURRENCY.

English money is the currency used, and all Government Accounts are kept in it.

Merchants generally keep their accounts in American currency.

The Colonial Bank is the only Bank in the Colony. Government Accounts are kept there.

Colonial Bank Notes are in general use.

BARBADOS, 1900.

(E.) PUBLIC WORKS.

The total expenditure in 1900 was £9,678, of which £3,739 was spent on the ordinary works of the Colony and £5,939 on the Chamberlain and Victoria Bridges and the pier head, the money for these latter works being provided out of the Imperial Hurricane Grant.

The most important work included under the ordinary work of the Colony was the partial reconstruction of the Market in Bridgetown, a work which will, it is hoped, be completed in 1901. The work done and still being carried on on the bridges and pier under the supervision of Mr. Good, the special engineer engaged for the purpose, is proving a great boon to the Colony.

The bridge hitherto known as the "Swing Bridge," was completed and opened to traffic and renamed the "Chamberlain Bridge." The pier head is in course of repair, and a new Victoria Bridge was purchased in England so that little remains under this head except to complete the pier head and to put the Victoria Bridge into its place, a work very shortly to be undertaken.

(F.) PUBLIC WORKS—"WATER WORKS CONSTRUCTION."

The construction and extension of the Water Works was, so far as present plans contemplate, concluded on the 31st December, 1900, at a cost (within the year) of £3,854.

The balance remaining (to which I have alluded under the head of "Public Debt") amounting to £42,096, is available for such further work of construction in the higher levels as the Legislature may sanction.

(G.) PUBLIC WORKS—WATER WORKS MAINTENANCE.

The total expenditure under this head for the year 1900 amounted to £28,370. As against this the Water Works earned in 1900 a sum of £9,531, so that the loss shown is £18,839. This loss includes interest on the debt amounting to £13,125, Sinking Fund for the redemption of the original loan £3,750, and also (as shown above) £1,800 advanced towards the purchase of the "Lady Hay."

The aggregate of these sums amounts to £18,675, so that the actual loss on working (not including these items of expenditure) would appear to be £164.

(H.) PENSIONS.

The total payments in respect to Pensions to public officers amount to £6,270, as compared with £6,262 in 1899. In this sum are included all payments made in respect of the Pensions Act of 1890 on behalf of officers actually serving.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

Imports.

The total value of the Imports of the Colony in 1900 amounted to £1,045,251, as compared with £998,006 in 1899, showing an increase in value of £47,245.

Imports valued at £446,186 came from the United Kingdom as compared with £429,148 in 1899, at £187,042 from British Colonies, as compared with £135,417 in 1899, and at £412,022 from foreign countries, as compared with £433,441 in 1899.

The following is a comparative table for the five years from 1896 to 1900 inclusive.

Year.	Total.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.
	£	£	£	£
1896	1,048,887	467,649	181,644	399,594
1897	1,008,699	474,622	182,829	351,248
1898	1,058,885	428,063	205,232	425,590
1899	998,007	429,148	135,417	433,441
1900	1,045,251	446,186	187,042	412,022

From the above statement it will be seen that imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies have considerably increased, while those from foreign countries have fallen off to the extent of £21,000.

The increase of imports from the United Kingdom is mainly due to larger importations of manures and fertilizers, coal and machinery, and that from British Colonies to larger importations of rice from Calcutta, fish, flour, hay and staves from British North America, and coffee, coal and cocoa (unground) from British West Indies.

The decrease from foreign countries is mainly due to a falling off in importations of bread, corn and manure from the United States.

Exports.

The total value of the Exports of the Colony for 1900 amounted to £919,011, of which £694,038 represented produce of the Colony, and £224,972 British, foreign and other Colonial

BARBADOS, 1900.

produce and manufactures in transit and through bond, as compared in 1899 with the total value of £845,590, of which £610,405 represented produce of the Colony and £235,185 produce and manufactures in transit and through bond.

From the above it will be seen that there was an increase in 1900 of the total value of exports amounting to £73,421, being the difference between the increase of £83,634 representing the value of the produce of Barbados, and the decrease of £10,213 the value of other exports.

The principal increase was in sugar and molasses, which are almost the only Barbadian products.

Sugar.

In 1900 there were exported 48,573 tons of Muscovado sugar, as compared with 43,907 tons in 1899, and 1,998 tons of dry sugar in 1900, as compared with 2,312 tons in 1899. So that 1900 shows an increase in quantity of Muscovado sugar amounting to 4,666 tons, while it shows a falling off in quantity of dry sugar of 314 tons. The crop was, therefore, as a whole, better in 1900 than in 1899.

In 1900 48,573 tons of Muscovado sugar, valued at £10 per ton, realised	£485,730
In 1899 43,907 tons of Muscovado sugar, valued at £10 per ton, realised	439,070
Showing an increase in value in 1900 of Muscovado sugar exported amounting to ...	46,660
In 1900 1,998 tons of dry sugar, valued at £12 per ton, realised	23,976
In 1899 2,312 tons of dry sugar, valued at £15 per ton, realised	34,680
Showing a decrease in value in 1900 of dry sugar exported amounting to	10,704
Thus there was an increase of value in Muscovado sugar amounting to	46,660
A decrease of value in dry sugar amounting to	10,704
Showing a total increase in value of exported sugar amounting to	£35,956

Molasses.

In 1900 there were exported 37,234 puncheons, as compared with in 1899 29,134 puncheons, so that in quantity molasses shows an increase in 1900, as compared with 1899, of 8,100 puncheons. The value was also greater in 1900 than in 1899.

In 1900, 37,234 puncheons of molasses, valued at £4 per puncheon, realised	£148,936
In 1899, 29,134 puncheons of molasses, valued at £3 15*s.* per puncheon, realised	109,252
Showing on increase in value of molasses in 1900, as compared with 1899, amounting to	39,684
Thus there was—	
Increase in value of sugar	39,956
Increase in value of molasses	39,684
Total increase in value of sugar and molasses	£75,640

So that while there was an increase in value of Barbadian exports in 1900 amounting to £83,634, the above shows that £75,640 was due to increase in value on sugar and molasses while a value of £7,994 was due to increase from other sources as follows:—

	£
Rum	2,141
Manjak	1,545
Hides	1,504
Chemicals	965
Aërated drinks	681
Plants	558
Whale oil	498
Sundries	1,518
Showing further increase of ...	£9,410

As against this there were some slight decreases amounting in all to £1,416, but the foregoing is sufficient to show how largely the crop of sugar and molasses affects the total value of Barbadian exports .

The following table shows the destination of the exports of Barbados products for the five years from 1896 to 1900, both inclusive. This table does not deal with any export other than products of Barbados.

Year.	United Kingdom.	British Colonies.	Foreign Countries.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1896	33,521	132,794	411,052	577,367
1897	26,515	100,414	428,466	555,395
1898	12,761	126,856	402,866	542,483
1899	13,834	131,580	464,991	610,405
1900	25,258	172,583	496,197	694,038

There is no appreciable change in the destination of the products. The United States of America takes by far the largest share, that country being the market on which Barbados is at present almost entirely dependent for the disposal of its Muscovado sugar.

British North America is the market for molasses.

I have already pointed out that there was a decrease in 1900 as compared with 1899 of the value of exports other than Barbadian products amounting to £10,213.

This is mainly due to a decrease in the exports of—

	£
Bullion and coin	3,971
Corn	4,657
Cotton manufactures	2,696

A few other items slightly increased.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

The following table shows the total trade (Import and Export) with the United Kingdom, the British Colonies, and Foreign Countries, from 1896 to 1900, both inclusive :—

Year.	With the United Kingdom.			With British Colonies.			With Foreign Countries.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1896	467,649	38,520	506,169	181,644	274,813	456,457	399,594	444,895	844,489
1897	474,622	33,972	508,594	182,829	231,839	414,668	351,248	470,352	821,600
1898	428,063	35,207	463,270	205,232	288,117	493,394	425,590	445,906	871,496
1899	429,148	50,630	479,778	135,417	301,204	436,621	433,442	493,756	927,198
1900	446,186	68,251	514,437	187,043	308,668	495,711	412,022	542,092	954,114

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES AND FISHERIES.

Mines.

The only mining operations carried on in Barbados are those in connexion with Manjak.

In 1900 1,120 tons were exported, valued at £6,162, as compared with 1,062 tons valued at £4,617 in 1899.

Manufactures.

There were six rum distilleries at work in 1900, distilling in the aggregate 285,454 gallons of rum of an approximate value (exclusive of duty) of 1*s.* 5*d.* per gallon. Of the 285,454 gallons, 215,674 gallons were passed for home consumption and 43,242 gallons were exported, of which 4,531 gallons were foreign rum in transit. The local consumption of rum was, therefore, 1·1 gallon per head of population, which is estimated at 193,000.

There is a sulphuric acid factory in the parish of St. James, the product of which is largely used in the Colony in the manufacture of manures and soda water and the refining of rum.

There are two chemical manure works, the greater portion of the products of which is used in the Colony, while the balance is exported to other colonies.

A drawback is given on the materials used in the mixing of the manures exported, in respect of such of the materials as had been previously imported.

There is a small cigar and tobacco factory.

There are two ice manufactories. One is, however, not yet completed.

Fisheries.

There is a large flying fish and general fishing industry which is carried on solely by the poorer classes, and in which about 250 boats and 1,000 people are employed. The whole of the fish taken is consumed locally.

There are two small whale fishing industries in which four boats and 28 men are engaged. 430 barrels of oil were exported, valued at £448, in 1900, as compared with 254 at £397 in 1899.

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The only agricultural industries are those for the production of sugar cane (which is the staple industry of the Colony), and cereal and root crops, which are consumed locally.

The Botanical Station, on its original basis, is still carried on by the Colony, although all important botanical matters are now in the hands of Dr. Morris, C.M.G., the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies.

(D.) LAND GRANTS.

There are no Crown Lands. In the present fluctuating condition of the sugar industry the value of land is difficult to arrive at.

(E.) SHIPPING

The total number of vessels which entered and cleared in 1900, in comparison with 1899, is shown in the following table:—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Steam Vessels.	Tons.	Total Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
1899 ...	672	71,833	355	560,720	1,027	632,553
1900 ...	720	81,015	382	598,636	1,102	679,651

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.	Tons.	Steam Vessels.	Tons.	Total Vessels.	Total Tonnage.
1899 ...	674	72,144	355	560,720	1,029	632,864
1900 ...	713	80,167	384	601,648	1,097	681,815

The above returns show the number of vessels which have technically "entered" and "cleared," but as vessels have 24 hours time allowance before they need "enter," a larger number of vessels actually visit the port than appear in the above returns.

The details will be found in the Harbour Master's return on page X. 17 of the Blue Book, which shows a total arrival of 1,481 vessels, with a tonnage of 892,375 tons.

The Harbour Master's return includes all men of war and yachts.

The following are comparative tables:—

Entered.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1896	798	89,430	354	542,119	1,152	631,549
1897	812	92,760	376	576,507	1,188	669,267
1898	779	92,339	354	568,470	1,133	660,809
1899	672	71,833	355	560,720	1,027	632,553
1900	720	81,015	382	598,636	1,102	679,651

Cleared.

Year.	Sailing Vessels.		Steam Vessels.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1896	800	89,340	355	543,127	1,155	632,467
1897	819	90,188	376	576,507	1,195	666,695
1898	771	90,735	354	568,470	1,125	659,205
1899	674	72,144	355	560,720	1,029	632,864
1900	713	80,167	384	601,648	1,097	681,815

III.—LEGISLATION.

Forty-three Acts were passed in 1900.

Act No. 2 of the 18th January was an Act to increase the borrowing powers of the Government for Public Works by £5,000.

Act No. 9 of the 20th February was to provide for the increase of the Police Tax by 75 per cent. as soon as the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States of America came into effect, which event has not yet happened.

Act No. 12 of the 20th February was to impose certain Stamp Duties as soon as the Reciprocity Treaty with the United States of America came into effect.

Act No. 18 of the 15th May was, as has been stated in another part of this Report, passed to enable the Colony to re-imburse itself its losses incurred by the adoption of the tariff passed in June 1899, which latter tariff was arranged to meet the United States of America Reciprocity Treaty, which Treaty had not, and has not yet come into effect.

Act No. 28 of the 1st of August was passed consequent upon the representation of the Official Managers of the Savings Bank that the assets of the Savings Bank showed so slight a margin over liabilities as to render the condition of the Savings Bank unsatisfactory unless something was done to reduce the high rate of interest as well as to curtail the volume of business done by well-to-do persons for whom the bank was not especially designed.

The Governor in Executive Committee sent down a Bill suggesting a sliding scale of interest, but the House of Assembly amended the Bill by making the interest at the rate of 2 per cent. per annum. The Bill was passed and came into operation.

This Act has not yet been allowed.

IV.—EDUCATION.

The total expenditure in 1900 on Education was £16,726, as compared with £16,692 in 1899, of which £10,411 was spent on Elementary Education for Teachers' salaries, as compared with £10,441 in 1899. A sum of £580 was also spent in 1900 on books, fittings, &c., as compared with £559 for similar purposes in 1899.

Besides the Government Grant of £11,000, the Elementary School Teachers collected £1,008 in school pence.

There are First Grade, Second Grade, and Elementary Schools.

The First Grade Schools are Harrison College, the Lodge School, and Queen's College, the latter being for girls only.

The Second Grade Schools are Combermere School, Coleridge School, Parry School, Alleyne School (for boys), and the Alexandra and Victoria Schools for girls only.

At the end of 1900 there were 169 elementary schools.

The number of children on the roll of elementary schools in 1900 was 24,145, as compared with 25,334 in 1899, with an average attendance of 13,795 in 1900, as compared with 14,978 in 1899.

The average attendance for 1900 is less than that for 1899; but as the past year's attendance has been from one cause or another (chiefly the greater poverty of the labouring classes) the lowest for the last ten years (with the exception of 1891), it does not indicate a decided decline in school attendance; and, as a matter of fact, the last quarter of the year had the best attendance in most of the schools, thus showing that the return to former figures had already begun.

There was an extraordinary expenditure of £290 on elementary school buildings, which were destroyed by the hurricane of 1898. This sum forms part of the Imperial Grant of £40,000. There are two schools still to be re-built, the cost of which will come out of the Imperial Free Grant.

Provision was made in 1899 for the introduction of Agricultural Teaching in the elementary schools. Two courses of Lectures and also practical demonstrations have been given to the Masters, who evinced the greatest interest in the subject. Successful examinations were also held.

An Agricultural Science Class has been in existence at Harrison College for several years.

V.—INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) and (B.) Hospitals and Asylums.

The General Hospital is not a Government Institution, but receives an annual grant in aid from the Government of £6,630.

During the year 3,337 patients were admitted, making a total of 3,477 under treatment for the year. Of these 2,172 are recorded as having left the hospital cured, and 789 as relieved. In 81 cases no result was obtained, 13 are recorded as incurable, and there were 234 deaths.

The Out-Patient Department showed a steady increase in the miscellaneous cases from 3,048 in 1896 to 4,306 in 1900.

The total number of out-patients treated for the year was 17,496, the smallest number for the five years 1896–1900; 21,278 for the year 1898 was the largest.

The Lunatic Asylum is a Government Institution under the charge of Dr. Field, whose supervision and management are thoroughly satisfactory.

The daily average of inmates during 1900 was 360, being 174 males and 186 females.

The Leper Lazaretto is a Government Institution. It is a collection of low one-storey buildings of no intrinsic value.

It is somewhat crowded, and its situation, though healthy and desirable for the patients, is not wholly suitable. If money permitted it would be highly expedient to build a new Lazaretto on a better site and capable of accommodating a larger number of lepers; and the matter is one which will be duly considered when the finances of the Colony permit.

It is beyond question that many lepers are at large, and it is difficult for the Government to initiate new and more stringent legislation for segregation until more space is available.

The Institution is carefully managed by the Superintendent.

The number of inmates resident on the 31st December, 1900, was 111, being 60 males and 51 females.

The expenditure on the General Hospital, the Lunatic Asylum and Lazaretto for 1900, as compared with 1899, was as under:—

—	1900.	1899.
	£	£
General hospital...	6,918	7,045
Lunatic asylum	5,652	5,590
Lazaretto	2,681	2,903

I append a statistical table for 1900.

—	Admissions.	Discharges.	Deaths.	Daily Average.
General hospital ...	3,337	2,961	234	196
Lunatic asylum ...	88	49	49	360
Lazaretto	14	—	13	114

(C.) Poorhouses.

The Poor Houses are 11 in number, and purely Parochial Institutions. They are on the whole well managed by the Vestries, who appreciate the trust of local self-government, and take an active interest in their work.

The total expenditure on Parochial Institutions and poor relief in 1900, as furnished by the Poor Law Inspector, was £16,945, as compared with £16,749 in 1899.

The admissions into the Institutions in 1900 were 2,782, as compared with 2,576 in 1899.

(D.) Reformatory.

The cost of upkeep of this Institution was £1,629, as compared with £1,561 in 1899.

The number of boys was 123, as compared with 123 in 1899.

The difficulty of indenturing the boys as labourers in other colonies still exists, owing to a strong prejudice against them.

An important addition was made to the Department during the year by the purchase of Summervale plantation, which supplies a long-needed requirement, by affording a full and permanent supply of remunerative work for the boys.

(E.) Savings Bank.

The number of depositors on 31st December, 1900, was 13,238, having an aggregate sum of £210,920 to their credit, as compared with 13,270 depositors in 1899, having £223,417 to their credit.

From the above it would appear that the total liabilities of the Bank were £210,920, but there is a sum of £1,030 due to the Government of Barbados (Water Works Funds), and also a sum of £13,608 due to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, in respect of an overdraft, an amount advanced by them on a Bill not then matured.

The assets of the Bank on the 31st December amounted to £234,564, consisting of Investments in Inscribed Stock and £26,000 in Barbados Government Debentures, together with investments to the amount of £9,024 in mortgages on property in Barabados.

The assets on the 31st December, 1899, amounted to £237,663.

The above valuations are on the price paid and not on the market price.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) Police.

The Force is composed of an Inspector, a Sub-Inspector, 2 Sergeant Majors, 24 Corporals, and 315 Constables, which includes both Land and Water Police.

The cost of the Force in 1900 was:—

	£
Salaries	17,670
Premiums under Pension Act ...	113
Pensions	993
Other expenditure	5,041
	£23,817

(B.) Prisons.

The total cost of Glendairy Prison, the only prison in the Island, was in 1900, £4,948, as compared with £5,039 in 1899.

The number of prisoners was 3,937, as compared with 3,744 in 1899.

The estimated value of the labour of males in 1900 was:—

Outside	£1,185
Inside	246
Inside, estimated saving on bakery ...	896
	£2,327
The estimated value of female labour was	165
Making a grand total of	£2,492

as compared with a total of £2,538 in 1899.

Much outside work of appreciable value was done by the convicts in 1900.

BARBADOS,
1900.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

The Census for 1891 shows a population as under:—

Whites.			Coloured.			Total Population.
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
7,339	8,247	15,613	73,766	92,927	166,693	182,306

I estimate the present population at about 193,000.

The total number of registered births in 1900 was 7,337. Of these 3,389 were legitimate and 3,948 illegitimate. The males numbered 3,696 and the females 3,641.

From the above it will be seen that there were 299 births more in 1900 than in 1899. The total number of burials (there is no registration of deaths) in 1900 was 4,663, giving a death rate of 24·16 per 1,000 on an estimated population of 193,000.

The total number of burials in 1899 was 4,968. It will thus be seen that there were 305 less burials in 1900 than in 1899, while there were 2,674 more births than burials in 1900.

(C.) SANITATION.

The Central Board of Health, appointed by the Governor, is primarily responsible for the sanitation of the Colony.

The detailed working is carried out by local boards in each parish (the members of which are generally selected from the Vestrymen) under approved sanitary bye-laws.

(D.) CLIMATE.

The Climate leaves very little to be desired from a health standpoint.

1. The total rainfall of 1900, taken at the Botanical Station, was 48·19 inches, with 174 wet days, as compared with 49·55 inches and 191 wet days in 1899.

2. The Mean Barometrical Pressure was 29·929.

3. The Mean Temperature was 80·3.

4. The Mean Velocity of the Wind was 10·4 miles an hour.

VIII.

(A.) POSTAL SERVICE.

The Revenue of the Post Office in 1900 was £5,566, as compared with £6,254 in 1899. The expenditure in 1900 was £8,820, as compared with £9,255 in 1899—thus leaving a deficit of £3,254.

Owing to the great cost of conveyance of mails abroad, the Postal Service of Barbados is always worked at a loss.

The sum of £3,914 was paid to the General Post Office, London, and also the post offices of other countries in respect of the conveyance of mails, of which £2,160 was paid as the Colony's share of subsidy to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

The increase in correspondence, especially intercolonial, has been considerable, but not sufficiently so to counterbalance the loss incurred by the adoption of the Imperial Penny Postage.

The sum of £21,222 was paid out in the Colony on Money Orders from other parts of the British West Indies, as compared with £22,000 in 1899. The greater portion of this money is sent by Barbadian labourers, working elsewhere, to their families in Barbados.

(B.) TELEGRAPH SERVICE.

There is no Inland Telegraph Service. The West India and Panama Telegraph Company is the only Cable Company directly connecting Barbados with the outside world, and receives an annual subsidy of £1,500.

The subsidy was £2,500, but by the Act of the Legislature, under which it was granted, it was only payable up to the 31st December, 1899. The subsidy of £1,500 to the Company is now voted annually by the Legislature.

The Colony is also connected with the United Kingdom and the Continent, from Jamaica, by the Direct West India Cable Company.

(C.) TELEPHONE SERVICE.

The Telephone Service of the Island is worked by a private company at moderate rates, and has an approximate length of wire of 600 miles.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES.

The Troops have not yet been removed to Saint Lucia, but preparations are being pushed forward for their early transfer.

The Garrison consisted in 1900 of Headquarters and the 1st Battalion of the Leinster Regiment, and of two companies of the West India Regiment, all under the command of a Major General, whose active military command comprises also Saint Lucia, where a considerable number of troops are now stationed.

The functions of the Major General extend to all the British West India Islands (except Jamaica and Turks Island), and also to British Guiana.

The total amount paid in 1900 by the Imperial Government in respect of the Garrisons of Barbados and Saint Lucia, was £112,195, of which £48,195 was spent on the upkeep of troops in Barbados.

X.—FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The number of Friendly Societies on the Register on the 31st December, 1900, was 162, as compared with 155 in 1899.

XI.—ECCLESIASTICAL.

The total cost of Ecclesiastical establishments in 1900 was:—

Anglican	£9,557
Wesleyan	700
Moravian	400
Roman Catholic	50
	£10,707

In February Bishop Swaby, of British Guiana, who had been selected as the successor of the late Bishop Bree, assumed the control of the Diocese of Barbados and the Windward Islands.

XII.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

After an Administration of nine years, Sir James Shaw Hay, K.C.M.G., retired on the 22nd December with many feelings of regret, and with the good wishes of all who had served under him or knew him.

The Honourable Ralph Williams, Colonial Secretary, assumed the Administration of the Colony from the 23rd December, pending the arrival of Sir James Hay's successor.

Mr. W. P. Trimingham resigned his post as Colonial Postmaster on the 30th April, and was succeeded by Mr. W. H. Bailey, the Registrar. Mr. Trimingham, who served the Colony for over forty years, during the last eighteen as Colonial Postmaster, had won for himself the respect of the whole community.

XIII.—COUNCILS AND ASSEMBLIES.

In May the Honourable J. W. Parris resigned his seat on the Legislative Council, owing to ill-health and very advanced years. Mr. Parris was nominated to the Council in April 1882, and from his place on that Board rendered many and valuable services to his country, and earned the respect and confidence of all classes of the community.

Consequent on Mr. Parris's resignation, Dr. John Sealy was nominated to fill the vacancy in the Council. Dr. Sealy had been previously in the Council, having been appointed in 1878, and having resigned in 1882.

Mr. F. J. Clarke was re-elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

XIV.—FOREIGN CONSULS.

Mr. N. E. Parravicino was appointed as Consular Agent for Columbia.

Mr. J. Crawford was appointed Consul for Belgium.

XV.—POLITICAL FRANCHISE.

The qualifications for the Franchise are to be found in the Annual Blue Book at page L. 1.

The total number of electors was 1,890, as compared with 2,044 in 1899.

W. Herbert Greaves,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados
7th June, 1901.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 368.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1901-1902.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 326.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1902.

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1902.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
346	Northern Nigeria	1900–1901
347	British Solomon Islands	"
348	Lagos	1900
349	British Guiana	1900–1901
350	St. Vincent	1900
351	Jamaica	1900–1901
352	Cocos Islands	1901
353	Southern Nigeria	1900
354	Bermuda...	1901
355	Gambia	"
356	Falkland Islands	"
357	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
358	Malta	"
359	Gibraltar...	"
360	Straits Settlements	"
361	Sierra Leone	"
362	British Honduras	"
363	Turks and Caicos	"
364	Seychelles	"
365	Bahamas...	1901–1902
366	Fiji	1901
367	Ceylon	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand...	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas...	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operation in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Wei hai Wei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.

No, 368.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1900, *see* No. 326.)

GOVERNOR SIR F. M. HODGSON to MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

Government House, Barbados,
22nd August, 1902.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to you the Blue Book of Barbados for 1901-1902, and to submit for your information the following report upon it:—

I.—FINANCIAL.

(A.) GENERAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

As it has been arranged that the financial year shall in future be from the 1st April to the 31st March inclusive, the figures in this year's Blue Book will be for the period from the 1st April, 1901, to the 31st March, 1902, but they will in some cases have to be compared with the figures for the calendar year 1900.

Simultaneously with the alteration in the financial year, a change was made in the Customs Tariff. This change must be borne in mind when examining the comparative statements of revenue and expenditure. The Tariff brought into operation on the 1st April, 1901, was with a few minor alterations a reversion to the Tariff of the 1st January, 1897, and it may be convenient here to explain why that Tariff was not kept continuously in force. The Tariff in question, which includes a 10 per cent. *ad valorem* duty upon articles of commerce not particularly enumerated, had worked well; but in order to give effect to the proposed Convention between Barbados and the United States under which, with a view to secure a reduction in the duties on sugar and molasses exported to the latter country, the Colony of Barbados had agreed reciprocally to allow the majority, certainly the most important, of American products to be admitted either free, or at considerably reduced rates, it became necessary to completely revise the Colony's fiscal arrangements. Accordingly, and in anticipation of the signing of the Convention, a new Tariff was introduced on the 26th June, 1899, under which while certain articles, to use the words of the Tariff Act (No. 16 of 1899), "the product of the soil or industry of the United States of America, of Great Britain and the British Possessions and of such countries as shall be entitled by Convention with Great Britain to the benefit of the Most Favoured Nation Treatment" obtained exceptional treatment, the duty on other imports was raised by as much as 50 per cent. in order to bring about the necessary adjustment of revenue. Contrary to expectation, the Convention was not ratified by the United States Senate, and the Colony was therefore free to withdraw the Tariff. It did so on the 15th May, 1900, not because it was not found to work satisfactorily, but because, owing to the depressed condition of the sugar industry, trade had fallen off and it became necessary to take special steps to restore the financial equilibrium. An Act (No. 18 of 1900) was therefore passed suspending what may be called the Convention Tariff, and authorising the imposition of an *ad valorem* duty of 15 per cent. as well as a substantial increase of duty upon several enumerated articles. This was really a special measure, and when it had secured its object it became unnecessary to keep it in force. Hence its repeal and the reversion on the 1st April, 1901, to the Tariff of the 1st January, 1897.

The revenue for the financial year under review exceeded the expenditure by £4,622, the revenue having amounted to £179,972 and the expenditure to £175,350.

The following tables compare the heads of revenue and expenditure with those of the financial year 1900-1901:—

Revenue.

Head.	1900-1.	1901-2.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	121,903	104,971	—	16,932
Port and Harbour dues ...	3,554	3,480	—	74
Excise	27,027	27,337	310	—
Licences	4,576	4,458	—	118
Police tax	3,768	3,854	86	—
Fees and fines and fees of office.	6,414	6,268	—	146
Post Office	6,041	6,086	45	—
Water works	9,774	11,575	1,801	—
Miscellaneous	12,254	11,943	—	311
Total	195,311	179,972	2,242	17,581

Expenditure.

Head.	1900–1.	1901–2.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	7,425	6,717	—	708
Post Office	9,004	9,266	262	—
Legal Departments	12,571	12,073	—	498
Police	22,680	22,211	—	469
Ecclesiastical	10,936	10,915	—	71
Education	18,043	16,752	—	1,291
Medical Departments ...	18,509	16,486	—	2,023
Water Works	28,300	27,020	—	1,280
Pensions	6,452	6,485	33	—
Subsidies and Grants ...	9,912	8,992	—	920
Public Works Recurrent ...	1,641	3,257	1,616	—
Miscellaneous...	39,952	35,176	—	4,776
Total	185,475	175,350	1,911	12,036

The total revenue and expenditure during the last five years is shown in the following table:—

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901–2.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	184,706	182,682	216,017	185,474	179,972
Expenditure ...	172 551	185,840	207,883	182,865	175,350
Surplus	12,155	—	8,134	2,609	4,622
Deficit	—	3,158	—	—	—

There has been a gradual decrease in the expenditure on Establishments due to the working of the Retrenchment Act (No. 19 of 1896) under which upon the occurrence of vacancies certain offices cease to exist and others are curtailed in value. Every effort consistent with the maintenance of efficiency has been and is being made to curtail expenditure in every direction.

(B.) Assets and Liabilities.

The Assets on the 31st March, 1902, exceeded the Liabilities of the Colony by £35,330 2*s.* 1½*d.*, as shown by the following table:—

Assets.				£	s.	d.	Liabilities.	£	s.	d.
Balance to credit of General Revenue				28,576	10	5½	Amount of Liabilities unpaid at 31st March ...	1,788	0	0
Due by the Vestry of St. Peter's parish				50	0	0	Balance of Assets over Liabilities	35,330	2	1½
Amount of Public Buildings Insurance Fund. Nominal Value.				6,141	13	6				
Due by the Water Boat Fund on account of the advance from General Revenue in part payment of Water Boat "Lady Hay."				307	17	3				
Due by the Governing Body of Harrison College				133	1	9½				
Due by Imperial Treasury on account of the expenditure in connexion with Sugar Cane Experiments.				604	2	1½				
Due by Directors of General Hospital				475	0	0				
Public Officers Security Fund—										
Invested	£750	0	0							
Uninvested (Savings Bank)	79	17	0							
				829	17	0				
Total				37,118	2	1½	Total	37,118	2	1½

The disposal of the sum of £28,576 10*s.* 5½*d.* standing to the credit of General Revenue is shown as follows:—

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Surplus Funds invested	16,172	13	5
Deposited at interest in Colonial Bank	5,474	12	2
Advanced to Imperial Commissioner...	775	0	0
Advanced to Government Savings Bank	2,000	0	0
Current Account in Colonial Bank ...	3,611	12	5
Cash in hand	542	12	5½
	£28,576	10	5½

(C.) PUBLIC DEBT.

The particulars of the Loans contracted by the Colony and the conditions governing their repayment can be seen by reference to the statements in G. 1. of the Blue Book.

The total amount of Public Debt on the 31st March, 1902, was £428,600, of which £375,000, is funded at 3½ per cent. and the remainder is unfunded. Of the sum of £375,000, which was raised for the purchase and extension of Water Works, a sum of £347,970 has been actually spent, the balance of £27,030 being either invested in suitable securities or placed on deposit in the Colonial Bank. (A sum of £810 0*s.* 7*d.* is in the hands of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, and is included in the balance shown by them to be due to the Colony.)

(D.) CURRENCY.

The Currency consists of Colonial Bank $5 notes, and English gold and silver, chiefly florins, shillings, sixpences, and threepences. English copper coins are in circulation. The Colonial Bank is the only bank in the Colony.

(E.) PUBLIC BOARDS.

The control of local affairs is in the hands of Local Boards bearing the ecclesiastical title of Vestries. The whole Island, it may be explained, is divided into eleven parishes, of which St. Michael is the most important, as in it is included the town of Bridgetown in which all the commerce of the Island is centred. The arrangement dates back to the early history of the Colony. The Vestries are elected annually. The rector of each parish is *ex officio* a member of the vestry of the parish of which he is rector, and is chairman of the vestry. Each vestry elects a churchwarden and a treasurer. The former is chairman of the Poor Law Guardians of the parish and has a variety of duties to perform. He ranks next to the rector and presides at a vestry meeting when the rector is not present. The treasurer —a permanent officer—is responsible for the collection of the rates and taxes and is remunerated by getting 6 per cent. on the total sum collected. He issues dog, carriage, and other licenses, and has to make various returns required by Statute.

The vestries appoint annually Highway Commissioners, whose duty it is to look after the parish roads and to carry out the provisions of the Highways Act (No. 39 of 1900). They also appoint Sanitary Commissioners who see to the sanitary arrangements in their respective parishes and the administration of the approved Bye-laws; and, further, appoint three of their number to form a Board of Guardians for the administration of Poor Relief.

All rates for parochial purposes are fixed by the vestries, but, with few exceptions, their administrative functions are assumed by the several Boards which they appoint and which to all intents and purposes become independent bodies upon appointment.

The Government has little or no control over the vestries or over the boards which they appoint, but there is power to remove treasurers or collectors of taxes for breaches of duty or other misconduct. All parochial institutions are regularly inspected and reported upon by the Poor Law Inspector, who is appointed by the Governor, and his reports are very useful both to the Government and to the vestries.

Besides the rates for general local purposes, such as roads, bridges, sanitation, poor relief, and so forth, vestries can levy a rate "for the purpose of aiding and assisting in the support and maintenance of any parochial chapel," and also "for the purpose of paying the rent of a house or houses for the vicars or curates of the several chapels in their parish, or for the repair of such houses or of the rectory in the parish, and also for making grants-in-aid to religious bodies of all denominations for the repair of places of worship."

With this slight sketch of the Public Boards of the Island, the following figures may prove of more interest:—

Comparative statements of total Revenue and Expenditure by vestries for the last five years.

Revenue.

Parish.		1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
		£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael	...	21,695	22,263	23,066	22,709	24,857
Ch. Church	...	2,983	2,520	3,055	2,915	2,990
St. Philip	...	3,443	3,669	3,507	3,386	3,734
St. George	...	2,603	1,860	2,308	2,304	2,722
St. John	...	2,348	2,183	2,260	2,183	2,238
St. Thomas	...	1,416	1,434	1,331	1,469	2,640
St. Joseph	...	1,467	1,421	1,472	1,364	1,506
St. Andrew	...	1,468	1,252	1,240	1,347	1,411
St. James	...	1,621	1,563	1,545	1,421	1,495
St. Lucy	...	1,753	1,663	1,453	1,487	2,016
St. Peter	...	1,856	1,876	1,671	1,962	1,968
Totals	...	42,653	41,704	42,908	42,547	47,577

Expenditure.

Parish.		1897.	1898	1899.	1900.	1901.
		£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael	...	16,424	16,750	18,321	19,713	22,021
Ch. Church	...	2,549	2,553	3,019	2,813	2,896
St. Philip	...	2,761	3,221	3,398	2,984	3,178
St. George	...	2,037	1,850	2,180	2,035	2,394
St. John	...	2,119	2,014	2,161	2,070	2,088
St. Thomas	...	1,334	1,395	1,445	1,519	2,648
St. Joseph	...	1,365	1,354	1,399	1,164	1,214
St. Andrew	...	1,332	1,195	1,141	1,239	1,311
St. James	...	1,484	1,446	1,536	1,387	1,439
St. Lucy	...	1,635	1,681	1,551	1,594	1,657
St. Peter	...	1,543	1,812	1,646	1,804	2,013
Totals	...	34,583	35,271	37,797	38,322	42,859

Heads of Parochial Expenditure.

Parish.	Highways.			Sanitary.			Poor Relief.			Education of the Poor.			Maintenance of Churches, Rectories, &c.			Miscellaneous. including repayment of Loans, &c.			Salaries.			Totals.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
St. Michael	4,163	6	9	4,309	16	4½	5,055	2	7½	336	1	4½	1,361	6	4	8,320	15	7½	2,638	0	3½	22,021	2	7½
Christ Church	1,564	17	7½	160	4	1	1,269	15	2½	97	19	4½	593	16	3	81	17	7	693	6	1½	2,896	18	7½
St. Philip ...	1,562	1	5½	75	0	0	1,645	1	0½	155	0	0	592	6	2	81	5	4	629	17	9	3,178	10	3½
St. George...	1,403	1	6½	62	13	6	1,045	1	4	101	4	6	551	11	2	43	4	3	590	2	3½	2,394	7	0½
St. John ...	1,183	19	6	30	19	5	1,102	5	2	121	16	4	255	10	8	70	2	9½	507	10	4	2,088	4	8½
St. Joseph...	943	5	10½	15	9	0	503	1	1½	71	4	6	193	6	7½	26	2	2	405	6	2½	1,214	9	7½
St. Thomas	894	15	1	58	14	9	592	11	2	110	14	2	1,282	10	9½	141	14	6	462	8	4	2,648	13	8½
St. James ...	967	6	5½	23	3	10	526	12	9½	105	12	6	286	9	3	44	2	4	452	16	4	1,438	17	0½
St Andrew	946	0	1	12	10	0	500	2	10	110	16	8	152	18	5	184	11	6	349	16	3	1,310	15	8
St. Peter ...	796	13	2	37	5	5	675	9	3½	171	12	5½	292	19	6	149	15	2½	330	0	1	1,657	1	11½
St. Lucy ...	654	0	8	26	16	9	690	9	0½	182	12	8	315	17	11	375	18	7½	421	15	3½	2,013	10	3½

(F.) Debts of Municipalities.

The following are the debts incurred by the several parishes:—

Parish.	Amount. £	s.	d.
St. Michael	16,531	8	6½
St. Thomas	7	14	1
St. Andrew	200	0	0
St. Lucy	160	0	0

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES.

(A.) Imports and Exports.

Considering the depressed condition of the staple industry, sugar, the trade of the Colony in bulk has on the whole been satisfactory, exceeding in value that of 1900 by £3,939.

Details of the principal articles of import during the calendar years 1900 and 1901 are given in the following table:—

Articles.	1900.	1901.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Bread, Pilot, Navy and Crackers ...	21,087	25,134	4,047	—
Coal and Coke	28,026	25,892	—	2,134
Cornmeal	24,818	25,455	637	—
Cotton, Linen, Silk, and Woollen Manufactures.	152,752	179,976	27,224	—
Fish, dried, salted or smoked... ...	52,626	51,722	—	904
Flour	67,223	61,698	—	5,525
Hardware and Cutlery	19,974	25,844	5,970	—
Manures and Fertilizers—				
Guano	7,629	—	—	7,629
Nitrate of Soda	33,486	28,164	—	5,322
Sulphate of Ammonia	40,478	19,222	—	21,256
Unenumerated, &c.	25,153	30,614	5,461	—
Oats	21,263	19,890	—	1,373
Pork (salted or pickled)	29,345	20,353	—	8,992
Rice	84,412	44,389	—	40,023
Soap	17,893	17,562	—	331
Wood—				
Beech, W. Pine, &c.	13,077	18,147	5,070	—
Pitch Pine...	13,538	7,372	—	6,166
Staves	17,739	34,749	17,010	—
Shingles, Hoops, &c.	8,097	9,062	965	—

The most marked decreases are in connection with rice, flour, and manures. As regards rice, the local consumption averages 7,500,000 lbs. annually. There were some 4,000,000 lbs. on hand from the quantity imported in 1900, so that the amount imported in 1901, namely, 8,079,899 lbs. less 3,731,691 required for re-exportation, sufficed to meet local requirements. The decrease in the importations of flour is to a great extent discounted by the increase under the heads of "Bread, Pilot, Navy and Crackers" and "Cornmeal." At the same time the decrease in the importation of these important foodstuffs must be partly set down to the reduction in the wages fund available for distribution in consequence of the depressed condition of the sugar industry. The Negro labourers have had less money to spend and consequently less food to eat.

The enormous reduction in the quantity of manures and fertilisers imported, amounting as it does to nearly 27 per cent., cannot be accounted for otherwise than by the necessity for decreasing expenditure upon sugar cultivation even at the risk of efficiency. The planters were without the money to spend and the outlook gave no indication of a rise in the price of sugar sufficient to warrant the merchants giving credit for the usual expenditure upon fertilizers. The import duty was reduced from the 1st April, 1901, from 8*s.* 4*d.* per ton to 4*s.* 2*d.* per ton.

The satisfactory increase in the importations of cotton and woollen manufactures as well as hardware and cutlery was no doubt principally due to the reduction in the *ad valorem* duty from 15 to 10 per cent. from the 1st April, 1901.

In textile manufactures, metal and other articles, Great Britain easily holds its own. It has practically no competitor. It exports to Barbados manufactures to the value of £356,700. out of a total supply of the value of £450,800. But in the matter of the supply of live animals and food-stuffs the United States takes the lead, for out of a total supply of the value of £361,592, a supply no less than £249,136 in value is received from the United States, Great Britain ranking next with £58,399, and British North America third, with £54,057.

It is satisfactory to note, when so much is being written about English manufactured goods being pushed out of the markets by American and German goods, that in this British Colony at any rate such is not the case.

The food-stuffs taken from the United States consist chiefly of flour, maize, cornmeal, bran, pollard, biscuits, and pork.

Total Value of Imports and Exports for the last Five Years.

—	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	1,008,699	1,058,885	998,006	1,045,251	1,021,679
Exports	736,162	769,231	845,590	919,011	950,175
Total value of Trade.	1,744,861	1,828,116	1,843,596	1,964,262	1,971,854

Exports.

The exports in 1901 are represented to have amounted in value to £950,175, of which £744,008 was in respect of the produce of the Colony. The principal exports were sugar and molasses, but the following articles of commerce obtained by local industry were also exported to the value shown in the accompanying table in which a comparison with 1900 is given:—

Article.	1901.	1900.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Chemical Manufactures and products	2,088	1,521	567	—
Earthenware	73	52	21	—
Raw Hides	2,326	2,618	—	292
Ice	1,066	1,192	—	126
Lime	2,910	2,676	234	—
Rum	1,153	2,903	—	1,750
Manjak	9,394	[*]6,142	3,252	—
Whale Oil	972	922	50	—
Plants, Shrubs and Seeds	2,549	1,176	1,373	—
Poultry	221	177	44	—
Tamarinds	301	758	—	457
Dried, Preserved, Fresh Fruit and Vegetables.	6,452	8,652	—	2,200
	29,505	28,789	5,541	4,825

[*] The manjak exported in 1900 was erroneously valued at £5 10*s*. a ton. It has been valued in 1901 at £9 a ton.

In the case of many articles of commerce Barbados acts as a depôt for other West Indian Colonies. For example, the following articles imported into Barbados were re-exported in 1901 to the extent shown:—

Imports.	Quantity.
Bacon and Hams	26,966 lbs.
Beef salted or pickled	282,187 „
Bran and Pollard	55,511 „
Bread, Pilot, Navy and Crackers	42,310 „
Butter	43,136 „
Margarine, Oleomargarine, &c....	120,695 „
Cheese	4,994 „
Coffee	36,154 „
Copper	60,590 „
Corn or Maize	640,947 „
Fish dried or salted	23,622 qtls.
Flour, Wheat or Rye	10,184 brls.
Grain, unenumerated	258,918 lbs.
Hay and Straw	140,367 „

Articles Imported into Barbados—continued.

Imports.	Quantity.
Lard	73,275 lbs.
Manures	965 tons.
Oilmeal and Oilcake	172,826 lbs.
Petroleum	34,839 glns.
Pork, salted or pickled	134,615 lbs.
Rice	1,731,691 ,,
Soap	969,887 ,,
Tobacco	32,183 ,,
Wood of all kinds	1,431,361 feet.

With regard to sugar and molasses, the products of the Colony, the exports during the last five years have been as follows:—

Articles.	1897.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.
	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds	Hhds.
Sugar—					
Muscovado	56,397	52,009	43,907	48,573	61,074
Dry	2,203	1,566	2,312	1,998	3,936
	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns
Molasses	37,432	34,123	29,134	37,234	46,043

The bulk of the sugar manufactured in Barbados, both Muscovado and Dry is taken by the United States which geographically is its natural market. The molasses exports are chiefly to Canada. During the last five years the destination of the exports of sugar and molasses has been as follows:—

Muscovado Sugar.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	United States.	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies	French Guiana.
	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds	Hhds.	Hhds.
1897	1,500	524	54,363	1	9	—
1898	1,063	3,302	47,544	82	3	—
1899	723	535	42,415	230	3	—
1900	1,678	634	45,885	356	20	—
1901	2,226	1,156	57.186	491	13	2

Dry Sugar.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	United States.	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.	French Guiana.
	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.	Hhds.
1897	1,052	—	1,150	—	1	—
1898	154	65	1,294	37	8	—
1899	2	6	2,295	9	—	—
1900	51	5	1,890	52	—	—
1901	158	17	3,756	5	—	—

Molasses.

Year.	United Kingdom.	Canada.	United States.	British West Indies.	Foreign West Indies.	French Guiana.
	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.	Puns.
1897	420	35,545	1,183	21	231	—
1898	183	32,853	1,053	3	18	—
1899	646	27,935	19	479	55	—
1900	287	34,919	1,706	307	5	—
1901	125	40,090	5,706	91	31	—

(B.) MINES, MANUFACTURES AND FISHERIES.

Asphaltum or Manjak.

The only mines are those in connection with the extraction of manjak, an industry which may be said to be still in its infancy. The first mine was opened on College Estate in January, 1896. In 1901 there were nine mines at work, and of these, three are in the hands of a company called the Barbados Manjak Mines, Limited, employing from 70 to 100 labourers daily, who are paid for tunnelling and timbering work by the piece or task.

At one mine, where only eight persons are employed at 1*s.* a day each, the annual output is about 200 tons. Here there is but one shaft and the manjak is brought to the surface by means of a winch worked by hand. The manjak from this mine realised an average price of £9 per ton, the refuse being disposed of at a much lower price.

There is no legislation requiring the owners of manjak mines to make returns to the Government, and they are not in any way under Government supervision. So far, no necessity has been shown for such supervision, excepting perhaps the extreme reticence on the part of most of the owners to afford information and statistics. The Customs returns show that during 1901 as many as 1,043 tons 16 cwts. were exported from Barbados. This quantity taken at the value of £9 a ton places the gross value of the industry at £9,394.

Manjak or glance pitch, as it is sometimes called, is used for making the varnish known as brunswick black, for insulating electric cables, &c.

The export of manjak during the last five years is stated to have been as follows:—

Year.	Tons.
1897	1,880
1898	1,160
1899	1,026
1900	1,120
1901	1,043

Petroleum.

In the same district in which the asphaltum or manjak deposits are found, petroleum exists in small quantities. This industry is also in its infancy, and in the absence of legislation and Government supervision the yield and money value of it cannot be ascertained. There are some 19 wells, and of these there are about 12 which vary in depth from 60 feet to 1,000 feet and from 4 to 6 inches in diameter, yielding about 1,400 gallons of oil per week. About 16 persons are employed in the actual collection of petroleum and they are paid by task work, about 10*d.* per 50 gallons.

The petroleum is disposed of locally at a price of 2*d.* to 6*d.* per gallon, and is used as fuel and for lubricating machinery on some of the sugar estates.

The annual output may be stated at 7,200 gallons—worth about £1,000.

Manufactures.

The most important manufacture is that of rum, which is for the most part consumed locally. There were six distilleries at work during the first half of the year, but two of them, after a keen competition for sales, amalgamated. The amount of rum distilled in 1901 was 261,918 gallons. Of this quantity 220,365 gallons were consumed in Barbados and 15,376 gallons exported. The local consumption of rum, taking the population at 196,000, was 1·12 gallons per head.

Other local manufactures are:—

Sulphuric acid.
Chemical manures.
Lime.
Tobacco.
Matches.
Chocolate.
Ice.
Aerated waters.

and late in the year an oleo-margarine factory was started.

The value of the lime exported in 1901 amounted to £2,910. The lime is taken chiefly by the Colony of British Guiana.

Fisheries.

These are not unimportant and give employment to a comparatively large number of persons. But they are not in any way worked systematically or to the best advantage. Cured or salted fish is very largely consumed in Barbados, the quantity imported, chiefly from Canada, exceeding £50,000 in value annually. It is worth while to ascertain whether, in the waters which encompass the Island and which already yield to the present more or less primitive methods of catching fish, such excellent fish as dolphin, snaper and flying-fish, and a variety resembling whitebait, there are not also large fish which when caught could be salted and placed within the reach of the people at about half the price which they now have to pay for the imported fish. A proposal to obtain the report of an expert upon the sea fisheries of the Island with a view to see what could be done in the matter was, to my great regret, not at the time favourably entertained, but I hope later that this decision will be reversed.

What is known as the "sea-egg" forms a staple food, but the takings in recent years have considerably diminished. In 1879 an Act was passed providing for a close season, but this Act although it has certainly done good has not had the desired effect of altogether preventing a falling off in the supply. It is now considered that what is wanted is not so much a close season, although that is desirable, as the establishment of propagating areas or reserve grounds within which the gathering of sea-eggs would not be permitted. Here again the report of an expert would be useful, as he would be able to indicate the best areas for reserves and also to say whether the re-stocking of the selected grounds is necessary.

Whales are caught off the coast in small numbers and give employment to a few persons. The exports of oil have been as follows:—

Year.	Barrels.	Value.
		£
1899	254	423
1900	553	922
1901	583	972

(C.) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES AND BOTANICAL STATIONS.

The cultivation of the sugar cane is the agricultural industry of absorbing importance in Barbados. The soil and climate are adapted to it, and labour is plentiful. Nearly all the available area of the Island is under sugar cultivation, which has been brought to a very high standard of efficiency. It is when the manufacturing process commences that a lack of progress is observable. There are 445 sugar estates, and of these 343 are dependent upon wind power for cane crushing. 102 estates have installed machinery worked by steam and of these 8 have vacuum pans. Not a single estate has as yet installed the requisite machinery for the extraction of the maximum quantity of juice obtainable from the canes, and in the present critical state of the industry this is not to be looked for excepting with the assistance of the Government. The matter is necessarily engaging attention. The majority of planters have long seen the necessity for better methods, but the gradual reduction in the market price of sugar, due in a great measure to the artificial support given to the beet sugar producers, and the lack of combination among themselves, have prevented their finding the requisite capital. At the close of the year the question of the hour was not so much the improvement of methods of manufacture by the establishment of central factories or otherwise as the saving of the sugar industry, and the vast population dependent upon it for support from absolute ruin. The reassembling of the Brussels Conference at the instigation of the Imperial Government for the purpose of considering the general abolition of bounties is looked forward to with keen interest, as upon the result arrived at depends in a great measure the possibility of the local Government being able to maintain the credit of the Colony and to arrive at some means for keeping the population in employment. When this has been secured as far as possible, the question of the establishment of central factories will have to be taken up and finally dealt with.

Minor Industries.

Arrowroot.

Foremost among the minor industries, apart from the Island sea fisheries, and what are known as "catch crops" on sugar estates, may be placed the cultivation of arrowroot. This cultivation is almost entirely confined to the parishes of St. Joseph and St. Andrew (there being only about 1 acre in St. John's parish) and in the first two parishes principally on the lands sloping towards the sea. On these lands, swept as they are by the sea breezes, it appears to be possible to cultivate arrowroot with success.

Note.—On the 6th of March a telegram was received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies stating that a Convention had on the previous day been signed at Brussels abolishing bounties from September, 1903.

About 336 acres are under arrowroot cultivation as follows:—

Parish.	Acres.
St. Andrew's	273
St. Joseph's	62
St. John's	1

The industry is at present entirely in the hands of the peasants who carry on the cultivation in small plots, the largest being three acres in extent on Cambridge plantation in the parish of St. Andrew.

It is difficult to arrive at the number of persons who are engaged in the industry because of the smallness of the plots and because it is carried on by labourers in their spare moments—early in the morning before going to work in the sugar plantations and during the evening after their return. But assuming that each labourer worked four days per week, that is 208 days per annum, continuous occupation would be afforded to 162 persons. As a matter of fact, however, as many as 700 persons must be engaged in arrowroot cultivation, most of them as already stated, during their spare time.

The greater part of the arrowroot made in Barbados is sold in the country districts by what are locally known as "starch sellers." These sellers are either the producers themselves or are persons who buy the arrowroot and retail it. The annual yield is about 2,700 barrels and the value, at the low price of 9*s.* per 100 lbs., about £5,000.

Most of the imported arrowroot comes from St. Vincent and is sold in Bridgetown. As there is an import duty of 2*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lbs. to which must be added the cost of freight and the middleman's commission there is still room for the local expansion of the Island product apart from the possibility of making it an article of export. Before exportation can take place there must be considerable improvement in manufacture by the erection of suitable factories provided with modern appliances.

Cacao.

There are a few cacao trees here and there, but judging from their appearance it is unlikely that cacao growing can ever assume any importance in Barbados. Both soil and climate appear to be unsuitable.

Nutmegs and Spices.

I have seen nutmeg trees growing well in gullies and ravines, but there is no systematic cultivation, and it is doubtful whether suitable areas sufficiently large could be obtained to admit of cultivation being conducted on a commercial scale.

Botanical Station.

In Barbados which is so entirely devoted to growing sugar cane there is little scope for a botanical station to greatly influence what is known as the "Minor Industries," and the energies of that institution are mainly directed to assisting the sugar planters in ascertaining by experiment the best manures suited to the different districts of the Island and in growing and testing new varieties of sugar canes obtained from seeds and from other countries. The manurial and varietal plots thus experimented with, amounted in 1901 to 7,313 covering an area of 70¼ acres, dotted here and there about the Colony.

Efforts in other directions have been made, notably in endeavouring to establish a trade with England in sweet potatoes.

At my suggestion the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies addressed a circular letter to several vegetable dealers in England offering, with the co-operation of some of the planters, to deliver to each for a limited period, a barrel of sweet potatoes once every fortnight for free distribution or for sale at a nominal price. The Commissioner was also good enough to prepare for distribution along with the sweet potatoes a pamphlet containing fifteen recipes for cooking them.

After potatoes had been supplied for some weeks, a trial shipment of four lots of ten barrels each were consigned to Messrs. James Philip & Company, 4, Fenchurch Buildings, London. The results have so far been satisfactory. The average gain after deducting all expenses in excess of what the planters would have obtained locally amounted to £3 17*s.* 5*d.* per acre, or an increase of 56·64 per cent. The potatoes arrived in good condition and the industry would, I believe, become a profitable one, if, as I anticipate, it can be found possible to extend the sales. The appointment of agents to make sweet potatoes known in Great Britain and to push sales is under consideration.

There is another vegetable, the yam, which should prove an acceptable addition to the food supply of the United Kingdom, and an effort will shortly be made by the Commissioner of Agriculture to put it on the English markets, where it ought to meet with a ready sale.

Owing to the depressed state of the sugar market the price of land has fallen, and a few planters and others do not now think it too valuable for growing a few fruit trees. Consequently there has been a small demand for fruit plants of the better sorts. This has been met by the sale of grafted mango plants from the Botanic Station and by the importation from the neighbouring colonies of other varieties of mangos, budded orange plants, pine-apple suckers, &c.

In response to a request made by the Barbados General Agricultural Society the Imperial Department of Agriculture gave during August, September and October a series of lectures to planters "affording information and assistance in elucidating scientific problems which underlie the agricultural practice in which they are daily engaged." Six lectures in all were given and were very largely attended.

(D.) LAND GRANTS AND GENERAL VALUE OF LAND.

There are no Crown Lands. In the present condition of the sugar industry it is not an easy matter to determine the average value of land. It varies in different localities according to its suitability for the cultivation of the sugar cane. Land in Barbados is probably as cheap now as it ever will be. Estates sold by auction might realise a sum calculated at as low a rate as £10 an acre.

(E.) SHIPPING.

The total tonnage entering and clearing during the year was 1,476,166, being an increase compared with 1900 of 114,700 tons.

There were 373 entries of British steamers and 43 entries of foreign steamers, being an increase of 34 in the former case and a decrease of 2 in the latter.

The entries of British sailing vessels amounted to 593, and of foreign sailing vessels to 76, being a decrease in the former case of 45 and in the latter of 6.

The number, tonnage and nationality of steam and sailing vessels entering the Colony during 1900 and 1901 is shown in the following tables:—

Steamers.

Nationality.	1900.		1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British ...	339	565,350	373	617,966	34	52,616	—	—
Foreign.								
American	—	—	1	1,942	1	1,942	—	—
Belgian ...	3	5,886	2	5,142	—	—	1	744
Dutch ...	—	—	3	2,871	3	2,871	—	—
French ...	18	1,595	8	681	—	—	10	914
German ...	10	12,439	14	20,126	4	7,687	—	—
Norwegian	14	16,378	15	18,661	1	2,283	—	...
Totals...	384	601,648	416	667,389	43	67,399	11	1.658

Sailing Vessels.

Nationality.	1900.		1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British ...	638	59,442	593	45,063	—	—	45	14,379
Foreign.								
American	31	14,074	36	18,997	5	4,923	—	—
Dutch ...	27	1,937	19	1,603	—	—	8	334
Danish ...	3	423	2	402	—	—	1	21
French ...	3	128	4	549	1	421	—	—
Venezuelan	9	649	4	255	—	—	5	394
Russian ...	2	696	5	1,725	3	1,029	—	—
Norwegian	3	1 068	3	1,347	—	279	—	—
Italian ...	1	583	1	574	—	—	—	9
Portuguese	—	—	1	164	1	164	—	—
Austrian...	1	646	1	533	—	—	—	113
Swedish ...	1	253	—	—	—	—	1	253
German ...	1	1,134	—	—	—	—	1	1,134
Totals...	720	81,015	669	71,212	10	6,816	61	16,619

It will be seen from the foregoing tables that sailing vessels are giving way to steamers as cargo carriers, and that so far as Barbados is concerned the carrying trade is almost entirely in British hands. An increase in the number of German steamers visiting the Island is, however, noticeable.

The following table compares the total shipping entered and cleared during the last five years:—

Years.	Number of Vessels.	Tonnage.
1897	2,383	1,335,962
1898	2,258	1,320,014
1899	2,056	1,265,417
1900	2,199	1,361,466
1901	2,163	1,476,166

The following tables give (1) Comparative Return of Shipping entered and cleared during 1900 and 1901, (2) Comparative Return of Shipping entered and cleared from 1897 to 1901, and (3) Analysis of Shipping entered and cleared during 1900 and 1901:—

Comparative Shipping Return for the Years 1900 *and* 1901 (*Entered and Cleared*).

Description.	1900.				1901.				Increase.				Decrease.			
	Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Steamers	676	90	1,127,688	72,596	746	85	1,236,982	97,668	70	—	109,294	25,072	—	5	—	—
Sailing Vessels ...	1,269	164	117,517	43,665	1,181	151	89,857	51,659	—	—	—	7,994	88	13	27,660	—
Total	1,945	254	1,245,205	116,261	1,927	236	1,326,839	149,327	70	—	109,294	33,066	88	18	27,660	—

Comparative Statement of Total Shipping Entered and Cleared from 1897 *to* 1901.

—	1897.		1898.		1899.		1900.		1901.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
Total entered and cleared ...	2,383	1,335,962	2,258	1,320,014	2,056	1,265,417	2,199	1,361,466	2,163	1,476,166

Analysis of Shipping Entered and Cleared 1900 *and* 1901.

Nationality.	1900.		1901.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	1,945	1,245,205	1,927	1,326,839	—	81,634	18	—
American	62	28,148	75	41,959	13	13,811	—	—
Dutch	53	3,805	44	8,944	—	5,139	9	—
Danish...	6	846	4	804	—	—	2	42
French	42	3,446	24	2,460	—	—	18	986
Italian	3	1,754	2	1,148	—	—	1	606
Venezuelan	18	1,298	8	510	—	—	10	788
Russian	4	1,392	9	3,119	5	1,727	—	—
Swedish	2	470	—	—	—	—	2	470
Norwegian	34	34,892	34	38,453	—	3,561	—	—
German	22	27,146	28	40,252	6	13,106	—	—
Austrian	2	1,292	2	1,066	—	—	—	226
Belgian	6	11,772	4	10,284	—	—	2	1,488
Portuguese	—	—	2	328	2	328	—	—
Total	2,199	1,361,466	2,163	1,476,166	26	119,306	62	4,606

III.—LEGISLATION.

Twenty-five Acts were passed in 1901, and of these the more important were the following:—

The Customs Tariff Act, No. 2. By this Act the Customs Tariff Act, No. 16 of 1899, which had been passed in order to give effect to the Convention for reciprocal trade relations between the United States of America and Barbados then expected to be concluded, and the several Acts amending it, were suspended until such time as the Convention should be ratified.

The Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, No. 8. By this Act the rate of interest upon Savings Bank Deposits which had been somewhat hastily reduced to 2 per cent. by Act No. 28 of 1900 was increased to 2½ per cent.

The Railway Act, No. 11. The object of this Act is to minimise the number of cane fires caused by sparks emitted from the railway locomotives or by cinders dropped out of the ash receptacles. Power is given to the Government to appoint an Inspector of Locomotives, and a penalty is imposed in the case of locomotives which are used without being fitted with preventive appliances.

The Surplus Revenue Investment Act, No. 12. This Act authorises the investment of £16,000 of the surplus revenue remaining on hand on the 31st March, 1901, and with the sanction of the Legislature the whole or part of any future surplus in such securities as the Governor in Executive Committee may determine, the object being to provide a fund for use in connection with undertakings for the general benefit of the Colony or to meet deficiencies of revenue in bad years.

The Cane Fires (Prevention) Act, No. 18. This Act is a complement of Act No. 11, already referred to. Its object is to minimise cane fires due to careless smokers or to acts of incendiarism which had become very prevalent.

The Volunteer Act, No. 21. This Act provides for the formation of a Volunteer Force, a matter which had long been under consideration.

IV.—EDUCATION.

(A.) PRIMARY.

The number of elementary schools in the Colony at the close of the year was 168, being 1 less than in 1900, an infant school having been closed. All the schools are in connection with religious bodies as follows:—

Denomination.	No.
Church of England	133
Wesleyan	19
Moravian	16

and are classified by the Education Board in the following manner:—

——	Boys.	Girls.	Mixed.	Total.
Primary	1	2	8	11
Combined	47	44	19	110
Infant	—	—	47	47
Total	48	46	74	168

An effort is being made to gradually extinguish mixed schools, and during the year 3 of these were divided into boys' and girls' schools.

There are about 40,000 children in the Colony of the school age, and of these the number on the registers in 1901 was 23,660, the average attendance being returned at 13,547, showing a falling off in the former case of 485 and in the latter of 248. 18,887 children presented themselves for examination. The falling off in the number of children under instruction is attributable to the depressed condition of the sugar industry whereby the wages of the labouring classes have become so curtailed as to render it difficult for them to pay the small fees required from children attending the schools.

The attendance of children at school is not compulsory. They are admitted at the age of four years and are allowed to remain until they have passed Standard VII. or have reached the age of 16 years.

The training of pupil teachers is a matter to which the Board of Education has given much consideration, and in the case of female teachers arrangements have been made to send two or more annually to the Training College at Antigua.

(B.) SECONDARY.

The Legislature did not render any assistance to Secondary Education before 1858, but private benefactors had long before that date established more than one excellent High school. At the present time the following schools are in existence:—

School.	Locality.	Remarks.
For Boys, 1st Grade—		
Harrison College ...	Bridgetown ...	Has a Staff of nine Masters, of whom eight are graduates of English Universities. Attached to this College is a well equipped Chemical Laboratory. The Science Staff consists of the Island Professor of Chemistry, an Assistant Professor and a Lecturer provided by the Imperial Department of Agriculture.
The Lodge School ...	Parish of St. John	Has a Staff of three Masters all graduates of English Universities.
For Boys, 2nd Grade—		
Combermere School ...	Bridgetown ...	The Staff consists of six Masters, of whom the Head Master is a graduate of an English University.
Coleridge School ...	Parish of St. Peter	Has a Staff of three Masters.
Parry School	Parish of St. Lucy	Has a Staff of two Masters.
Alleyne School... ...	Parish of St. Andrew.	Has only one Master.
For Girls, 1st Grade—		
Queen's College ...	Bridgetown ...	Has a Staff of nine Mistresses and a Master for teaching physical exercises.
For Girls, 2nd Grade—		
Alexandra School ...	Parish of St. Peter	Has a Staff of three Mistresses.
Victoria School ...	Parish of St. Andrew.	Has only one Mistress.

The range of work in the First Grade Schools for Boys extends from an average upper Fifth Standard to the level of open University Scholarships, and comprises the following subjects—Greek, Latin, English, French, German, Divinity, Mathematics and Science.

Girls are admitted to Queen's College who can pass a simple examination in reading, writing and arithmetic. The work of the school extends to that of the Senior Cambridge Local Honours Certificate.

The fees charged for boys attending the First Grade Schools are:—

Preparatory Form	£5	a year.
First Form	£10	„
All other Forms	£15	„

For girls the fees are:—

Preparatory Form	£3 15 0	a year.
Lower Forms	£7 10 0	„
Upper Forms	£10 0 0	„

Attached to the two boys' schools are 30 exhibitions, viz., 20 junior and 10 senior, a sum of £350 being annually voted by the Legislature for the purpose. Only boys who are natives of the Colony are eligible, and they must be sons of parents not in well-to-do circumstances.

To the Second Grade Schools which are designed to furnish a commercial education, boys are admitted at the age of seven, and in ordinary circumstances are allowed to remain until the age of 17, and, with special permission, up to 19. Girls are admitted at the age of seven and are allowed to remain to the age of 15, and, with special permission, up to 18.

To Second Grade Schools for Boys there are 60 exhibitions of £5 each, 20 being awarded annually, and tenable for three years. Any boy under 12 years of age can compete. At the expiration of the three years' limit an exhibitioner can renew his exhibition by passing a more difficult examination, and can then keep the exhibition up to the age of 16.

Every school receives a fixed grant from the Government, and the grant together with the fees of pupils and, in one or two cases, private endowments, are the sources from which the income of each is derived. The sums voted annually by the Government are £2,250 to First Grade Schools (including exhibitions), and £1,100 to Second Grade Schools (including exhibitions).

The number of pupils ordinarily in receipt of secondary education is,—First Grade Schools, 300; Second Grade Schools, 240.

University Education.

There is in the Colony, in the parish of St. John, a college founded by the benevolence of General Sir Christopher Codrington, a native of Barbados, and a proprietor of estates in that parish. He bequeathed the whole of his landed property to the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a college or school for the higher education of the youth of the Island, and for supplying trained ministers for the work of the church in the West Indies. It is known as Codrington College.

The erection of the buildings was commenced in 1714 and completed in 1743. It has passed through many vicissitudes until in 1829 it was remodelled as a strictly collegiate institution. In 1875, through the influence of Bishop Mitchinson, the college was affiliated to Durham University, and since then the course of study is that directed by the Senate of that University. All students at Codrington College are admissible to all degrees, licences, and academical ranks in the several Faculties of the University.

From 1830 to the present time 830 students have matriculated at Codrington College. The staff consists of a principal and two professors.

Four scholarships of the annual value of £40 each are provided by the Government tenable at Codrington College for a period of two years. They are eligible only to natives or the sons of natives of Barbados, or of persons domiciled in the Island with a residence of ten years. Candidates must be under 20 years of age.

Besides these scholarships there are four scholarships each of the annual value of £175, termed the Barbados Scholarship. One is awarded annually and tenable for four years at an English University or at an Agricultural or Technical College in Europe or America to be approved by the Education Board. The conditions as to age and birth are the same as those for the scholarships at Codrington College.

(C.) INDUSTRIAL, TECHNICAL, AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

During the year the lectures to the teachers of the elementary schools inaugurated by the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture have been continued, and for the first time prizes were given by the Imperial Department of Agriculture at the local Show for peasants, to pupils from these schools for the best exhibits of the commoner vegetables growing in pots, boxes, &c. This is a step in the right direction and cannot fail to be of the highest value in inculcating the best methods of growing plants, and the main principles which underlie the practice of agriculture. 34 teachers have received certificates as being competent to give instruction in agriculture.

It is intended to hold annual exhibitions of plain needle-work and to give money prizes to successful competitors with a view to encourage the acquisition of a good knowledge of this useful branch of school work by the girls in the elementary schools. The necessary grant of money has been made by the Legislature.

The question of starting an industrial school for the purpose of teaching useful handicrafts to lads has been under consideration. Suitable buildings for the purpose exist, and a scheme for teaching carpentry, plumbing, mason and smith work, &c., has been worked out. It is hoped that when the circumstances of the Colony improve and money becomes available this important matter will be taken up.

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

(A.) Hospital.

The General Hospital, which is located in Bridgetown, is not a Government institution, but is now almost wholly maintained by an annual grant from the Government of £6,630. It is managed by a somewhat unwieldy Board of 19 trustees and directors, presided over by the Governor, but the conduct of the general internal arrangements is placed in the hands of a House Committee appointed annually by the Board.

The hospital contains 236 beds, and is available to the sick from all the parishes of the Island. On the 1st of April, 1901, there were 188 patients remaining from the previous month, and during the year 3,833 patients were admitted, making a total of 4,021 under treatment during the year.

Early in 1901 complaints were made by the vestries of the out-parishes that they could not always obtain admission for their cases in consequence of the beds being unfairly allotted to cases from the parish of St. Michael. The complaint on investigation was not substantiated, and the out-lying parishes were asked to make greater use of the hospital.

The following table shows the parochial and other admissions during the last five years:—

Year.	Admissions from each parish.											Seamen.	Other persons.	Totals.
	St. Michael.	Ch. Church.	St. John.	St. Philip.	St. George.	St. Thomas.	St. James.	St. Peter.	St Andrew.	St. Joseph.	St. Lucy.			
1897	1,976	317	81	149	244	112	165	95	58	89	40	105	5	3,439
1898	2,221	434	64	154	235	74	157	108	58	87	82	120	13	3,807
1899	2,159	451	72	184	193	82	159	81	50	82	73	89	9	3,684
1900	1,958	344	57	182	198	74	148	102	71	70	57	61	15	3,337
1901	2,225	379	74	198	280	103	166	79	76	89	51	93	20	3,833

The results obtained during the last five years are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Total admissions.	Discharges.			Deaths.	Per cent. of deaths to cases.	Daily average resident.
		Cured.	Relieved.	Not relieved.			
1897 ...	3,439	2,210	810	203	188	5·2	208
1898 ...	3 807	2,230	1,146	161	281	7·0	211
1899 ...	3,684	1,872	1,539	77	210	5·3	209
1900 ...	3,337	2,172	789	94	234	6·7	196
1901 ...	3,833	2,330	1,134	79	297	7·3	217

The most noteworthy diseases treated during the year were:—

Diseases.	Cases.	Deaths.
Typhoid	177	43
Dysentery	163	19
Diarrhœa	90	16
Cellulitis	109	—
Tuberculosis ...	32	18
Phthisis	76	13

The total number of out-patients treated was 19,856, being an increase of 2,360 over the number treated in 1900.

During the year considerable changes have been made in the personnel of the hospital whereby a better supervision over expenditure has been obtained and economies thereby effected, especially in connection with the dispensary.

(B.) ASYLUMS.

Lunatic Asylum.

The total number of lunatics in the asylum on the 31st December was 369, and of this number 89 were admitted during the year. Of these 73 were admitted for the first time, and 16 were re-admitted after periods varying from 1·10 years to 17·04 years.

The health of the inmates has been good. The average number of inmates employed daily was 92, viz., 44 men and 48 women. The men are employed as agriculturists, gardeners, tailors, carpenters, herdsmen, and in cleaning and general work, and the women in needle-work, gardening, weeding, cleaning and laundry work.

The farm produce consisting of pork, milk, vegetables, and fruit realised £579 10*s.* 1*d.*, estimated at contract prices. Much more might be made out of the farm attached to the asylum, and it is intended to give more attention to this very important branch of work.

Lazaretto.

Although under the existing law only lepers without visible means of subsistence can be compulsorily segregated the asylum is always quite full. It is well known that many leprous persons are at large who by their calling are a danger to the community. As soon as funds are available for providing additional lazaretto accommodation, the cost of which has been ascertained, and the lines upon which it is to be given practically settled, the Legislature will be asked to strengthen the hands of the Government with a view to secure the complete segregation of all lepers either privately under suitable regulations and supervision or in the public institution. In an Island like Barbados it should be quite possible to stamp out and get rid of this very loathsome disease, and it is most unfortunate that the absence of funds prevents any action being taken at once.

The number of inmates in the lazaretto on the 31st December was 112, namely, 61 males and 51 females. Of these, 11 males and 6 females were admitted during the year. There were 16 deaths.

(C.) POOR HOUSES.

There are 11 poor houses, that is to say, one in each parish. They are under the management of the parochial Guardians of the Poor who are appointed annually by their respective vestries.

During 1901 as many as 23,120 persons received parochial relief of some kind as shown in the following table:—

Parish.	Visits of Parochial Medical Officers.	Relief at Dispensary.	Out-relief in money or food.	Admitted to the Almshouse.	Totals.
St. Michael ...	689	3,538	1,310	2,019	7,556
St. Philip ...	144	2,826	489	491	3,950
Christ Church ...	49	1,469	383	366	2,267
St. George ...	112	490	124	271	997
St. John ...	118	1,516	202	248	2,084
St. Thomas ...	112	649	29	374	1,164
St. James ...	120	197	143	151	611
St. Peter ...	104	224	177	102	607
St. Lucy ...	238	585	381	184	1,388
St. Andrew ...	162	552	140	125	979
St. Joseph ...	36	1,073	126	282	1,517
Totals ...	1,884	13,119	3,504	4,613	23,120

A dispensary now exists in every parish and cheap medical relief, as apart from poor relief, can be obtained in most of the parishes as the result of arrangement between the Board of Guardians and the parochial medical officer.

The following table gives the number of admissions, discharges and deaths and daily average of each poor-house, or almshouse, as it is called:—

Parish.	Daily Average.	Admissions.	Total Treated.	Discharges.	Deaths.
St. Michael ...	768	1,291	2,019	958	310
St. Philip ...	119	361	491	312	49
Christ Church ...	120	239	366	194	52
St. George ...	112	157	271	128	38
St. John ...	99	143	248	115	28
St. Thomas ...	106	264	374	223	52
St. James ...	63	81	151	61	20
St. Lucy ...	70	115	184	101	16
St. Andrew ...	46	77	125	61	18
St. Peter ...	55	46	102	40	10
St. Joseph ...	75	206	282	185	25
Totals ...	1,633	2,980	4,613	2,378	618

On the 27th November, in consequence of a minute which I addressed to the President of the Central Poor Law Board urging a more general uniformity among the several parishes as to the lines which poor relief should follow, a conference was held in the House of Assembly Room at which the Board of Guardians of every parish was represented.

The Government Poor Law Inspector reports that "the result of the conference was on the whole very satisfactory, and there can be no doubt that such conferences should be held regularly every year at least. They would undoubtedly result in the welding together of the various methods of poor relief administration."

The actual expenditure upon the public and parochial institutions is shown in the following table, in which a comparison with that of 1900 is given:—

Year.	Hospital.	Lunatic Asylum.	Lazaretto.	Parochial.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1900	6,978	5,733	2,725	16,945	32,382
1901	6,694	5,283	2,417	17,600	31,995
Increase ...	—	—	—	654	—
Decrease ...	283	449	308	—	387

(D.) REFORMATORY.

Boys Reformatory.

The number of lads in the institution on the 1st January was 118; 45 were discharged during the year and 51 were admitted. The lads came from all parts of the Colony, but chiefly from Bridgetown. Of the 51 lads admitted more than half could neither read nor write, and only 11 were anywhere near the ordinary standards for boys of their age. The average cost of maintenance of each boy, excluding from the calculation the salaries of the Reformatory staff, was £5 11*s.* 2½*d.* for the year. This is 6*s.* per head higher than in 1900, and is principally due to the rise in the price of food-stuffs and clothing. Taking staff salaries and all expenses in connection with the Reformatory into calculation, the average cost for each boy was at the rate of £13 8*s.* 10*d.*

During the three years ended the 31st December, 1901, 98 boys were discharged. Of these so far as it has been possible to ascertain, 29 have been re-convicted, that is, 29·6 per cent.; and of these 15 were on charges of theft. Of the remaining 69, 21 are agricultural labourers, 16 are servants in various capacities, 6 have emigrated, 2 are bakers' apprentices, 1 is a carpenter's apprentice, 1 a saddler's apprentice, 1 a blacksmith's apprentice, 1 a tailor's apprentice, 1 a boatman, 1 a fisherman, 1 a stevedore, 6 are otherwise in employment, and 11 are idlers or out of employment. With regard to the comparatively large number of lads who have failed to become good citizens after discharge, the Superintendent of the Reformatory writes as follows:—

"While the failure of some of the boys to do well is due to their own evil tendencies, there is no doubt that a large number of re-convictions is attributable to the general and extreme state of depression in the labour market and to their adverse surrounding conditions in an overcrowded Colony where much poverty and want are to be found."

Something could be done to assist lads upon their discharge, and to reduce the number of those who give themselves up to crime and evil ways if money were available for the purpose. The best solution of the difficulty which the boys experience in finding suitable employment is emigration; but in the present depressed state of the sugar industry it is impossible to augment expenditure. Consideration is being given to the question of apprenticing 10 lads annually to masters of schooners trading to and from Barbados so as to make a percentage of those who are discharged useful as seamen. The proposed arrangement if it can be carried out will not be costly.

The employment of the boys while in the Reformatory consists mainly of agricultural work, but masonry, tailoring, gardening and mat-making are also taught. All have to attend the Reformatory School at stated times, and of the 123 boys who were in the institution when the Inspector of Schools held his inspection, 89 were presented for examination with the following results:—

—	Boys passed.	Per cent.
In reading	86	96
In arithmetic ...	79	88
In dictation	82	92
In religious knowledge	80	89

Girls Reformatory.

It is intended to start a Reformatory for Girls as soon as the financial condition of the Colony warrants the necessary expenditure. The institution is much wanted, as at the present time the only way of dealing with girls who commit penal offences is by reprimands from the Bench, by fine, or by imprisonment. Fines are only very rarely paid, the girls who incur them having as a rule defied such parental authority as was ever exercised over them, and having become more or less outcasts from their homes. The requisite buildings are available on a very suitable site, and all that has to be done is to find the money to fit them up and to appoint the requisite staff. The cost for the first year for the maintenance of 60 girls is estimated at £970, and for subsequent years at £740.

(E.) SAVINGS BANK.

During the first quarter of the year the bank suffered from the operation of the Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, No. 28 of 1900, whereby the rate of interest had been reduced from 3 to 2 per cent.; but from the 1st April the rate was increased to 2½ per cent. by the Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, No. 8 of 1901, and the withdrawal of deposits on account of the reduction was thereupon arrested.

On the 31st December, 1900, the balance due to depositors, including interest, was £210,919 11*s.* 3*d.* On the 31st of December, 1901, it amounted to £199,275 18*s.* 2*d.* In connection with this reduction it is to be noted that during the first quarter of the year when the rate of interest was only 2 per cent., the withdrawals exceeded the deposits by no less a sum than £12,629 8*s.* 8*d.*

The following table gives [illegible] parative statement of the bank's transactions during the [illegible] five years:—

Year.	Number of Depositors on 31st December.	Deposits.	Withdrawals.	Sum including interest at credit of Depositors on 31st December.
		£	£	£
1897	12,278	104,829	87,092	213,984
1898	12,859	87,257	86,508	220,831
1899	13,270	102,125	105,732	223,417
1900	13,238	93,782	111,597	210,920
1901	13,420	104,348	120,393	199 276

The assets of the bank were on the 31st December valued as follows:—

	£
Consols	16,065
Colonial Government Inscribed Stock ...	152,765
Barbados Government Debentures ...	26,000
Barbados Parochial Loans	2,177
Cash at Colonial Bank	2,453
In hands of Crown Agents	983
Loan to Imperial Department of Agriculture.	550
Cash in hand	595
	£201,588
Investments in Barbados Sugar Estates	6,600
	£208,188

The last investment which is placed by itself and which was made some years when the sugar industry was flourishing is now of doubtful value.

After the payment of interest to depositors and the expenses of management, there remained a balance of profit amounting to £2,048 for the year.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Considerable attention has been given during the year to the position of the registered Friendly Societies. I found that no less than 163 such societies existed and it was clear that with a population of 195,600 so many societies could not possibly be in a flourishing condition. I found that three only were affiliated to the large English benevolent societies and working on a proper actuarial basis, and that of the remainder a very large number were not fulfilling the objects for which they were started, viz., to raise funds for the relief of members and their families in the time of sickness and death.

Many of the societies had been allowed to be registered under such fanciful titles as the following:—

- **Blades Hill Faithful United Gems.**
- **Chariot of Love.**
- **Luminous Fraternal.**
- **Naval Victory.**
- **United Tribe of Jacob.**

63 societies were as a result of enquiry removed from the register. Some of the societies had lost touch altogether with the main objects of Friendly Societies, and existed almost entirely for the purpose of enabling its members to masquerade in naval or military uniforms and to assume grandiloquent titles when meeting together.

The remaining 100 societies, many of which are doing good work, only, however, number altogether 9,115 members. The parish of St. Michael, which includes Bridgetown, leads the way with 25 societies having an aggregate of 2,590 members. St. Philip's parish stands next with 16 societies containing 1,781 members; St. Andrew's parish being last with four societies containing the small total of 132 members.

One of the worst features of the existing societies is the large number of officials drawing pay from their funds. These amount to 580 and together they draw £1,241 17*s.* 1*d.* annually. The system of having a lot of small societies all managed by paid officials is so obviously wrong that it is not easy to understand why there should be any opposition to amalgamation. In any case every registered society ought to be worked under similar rules, upon an uniform system as regards account-keeping and with remuneration to those officials whom it is absolutely necessary to pay, based strictly upon the number of members and the annual income of the society. These and other matters relating to Friendly Societies are under consideration in connection with a Friendly Societies Bill which is now before the Legislature.

VI.—JUDICIAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POLICE.

The Force consists of two officers, viz., an Inspector-General and an inspector and 353 non-commissioned officers and men. The latter are employed as follows:—

Land Police duties	237
Harbour Police duties	40
Writ Officers	36
Detectives	22
Barrack and Orderly duties	18
Total	353

Of the land police, 43 are mounted and do good work in patrolling the sugar plantations and preventing the crime of incendiarism to which reference will be made later.

By the Parish Constables Act, 1900, all parish constables were brought under the control and supervision of the Inspector-General of Police. There are 1,092 parish constables. They are each supplied with a small book of simple and practical directions, and are from time to time mustered and inspected. Great care is taken to retain only respectable and trustworthy men and the Force appears to be a useful adjunct to the Police.

The cost of the Force in 1901 was:—

	£
Salaries	15,502
Other expenditure	4,169
Total ...	£19,671

(B.) PRISONS.

There is one prison only in the Colony. It is conducted entirely on the separate system excepting when the numbers exceed 388. There are 266 separate cells for male prisoners and 122 such cells for female prisoners.

The total number of persons committed to prison in 1901 was 4,202, as against 3,937 in 1900. Of these 3,811 were committed for penal imprisonment in 1901, as against 3,463 in 1900. The daily average in the case of male prisoners was 278, and in the case of female prisoners 121.

In November the numbers on the male side of the prison rose to 348, being 82 in excess of the number for which there are separate cells, and in December they rose on the female side to 186, being an excess of 44. The question of increasing the prison accommodation has been considered and the cost estimated. The matter will be taken up when funds are available.

Nine juveniles under 16 years of age, namely, 2 males and 7 females were committed for penal imprisonment during the year.

Only one death occurred.

All prisoners, not undergoing punishment for offences against prison discipline, are employed upon industrial work, as follows:—

Inside—Males.

Baking bread for prison and public institutions, tailoring, bootmaking, carpentry, tinsmith, blacksmith, painting and masonry work, stone-breaking, water pumping.

Inside—Females.

Beating and preparing cocoanut fibre for mattresses, &c., laundry work, cooking prisoners' food, cultivating arrowroot.

Outside—Males.

Stone quarrying, stone breaking, reconstructing breakwaters, reconstructing roads, levelling land, repairing walls.

The estimated value of the industrial labour in 1901 was £2,647.

The daily cost of each prisoner was 8¾*d.*, inclusive of staff and other charges. The total cost for the year was £5,285 11*s.* 6*d.*

The majority of the prisoners could neither read nor write, and the following table shows that in the absence of compulsory education, no advance is being made in carrying education to the lowest strata of the people:—

Males.

Year.	Commitments for penal imprisonment.	Read and write.	Read only.	Illiterate.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1896	1,353	44	3	53
1897	1,321	41	7	52
1898	1,475	41	6	53
1899	1,530	44	5	51
1900	1,708	47	4	49
1901	1,815	44	5	51

Females.

Year.	Commitments for penal imprisonment.	Read and write.	Read only.	Illiterate.
		Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1896	1,399	33	11	56
1897	1,450	33	12	55
1898	1,534	33	11	56
1899	1,675	32	9	59
1900	1,755	36	14	50
1901	1,996	36	7	57

(C.) CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

The number of persons apprehended by the police and brought before the magistrates in 1901 was 16,351, as against 16,451 in 1900.

Of the 16,351 persons apprehended, 11,843 were summarily convicted, 103 were convicted in the Superior Courts, 4,347 were acquitted in the Inferior Courts, and 33 in the Superior Courts, and 25 cases brought before the latter Courts fell through for want of prosecution or because a Bill was thrown out by the Grand Jury.

The following table gives a comparison of statistics during the last ten years:—

Year.	Persons charged with offences punishable summarily or on conviction.	Offences punishable summarily.						Offences punishable on indictment.		Population.	Percentage of population convicted summarily.	Percentage of population convicted on indictment.	Total percentage of population convicted.
		Convictions.					Acquittals.						
		Offences against person.	Prædial Larceny.	Other offences against property.	Other offences.	Total.		Convictions.	Acquittals.				
1892 ...	12,229	2,562	1,181	922	4,528	9,163	2,894	98	65	183,000	5·02	·05	5·07
1893 ...	12,069	2,711	703	836	4,586	8,836	3,131	76	36	184,000	4·80	·04	4·84
1894 ...	12,192	2,684	931	936	4,588	9,139	2,934	96	35	185,000	4·94	·05	4·99
1895 ...	11,579	2,784	1,772	1,187	3,092	8,835	2,562	139	49	186,000	4·75	07	4·82
1896 ...	11,504	2,808	1,003	976	3,742	8,529	2,881	99	33	187,000	4·56	·05	4·61
1897 ...	12,217	3,032	950	1,122	3,923	9,027	3,071	76	62	188,000	4·80	·04	4·84
1898 ...	12,497	2,910	1,120	1,175	3,929	9,134	3,201	122	60	189,000	4·82	·06	4·90
1899 ...	14,783	3,397	1,367	1,504	4.678	10,946	3,704	114	37	190,000	5·76	·06	5·82
1900 ...	16,451	5,499	1,461	1,666	5,491	12,117	4,214	84	42	191,000	6·34	·04	6·37
190 ...	16,351	3,464	1,298	1,684	5,397	11,843	4,347	103	33	195,500	6·05	·05	6·10

Efforts have been made to reduce the number of punishments of juvenile boys by whipping, with regard to which method of punishment which has been so long and so freely enforced in Barbados, one of the magistrates writes as follows:—

"It is a most perplexing matter for a magistrate to know what to do with most of the boys that come before him, and particularly when they are between the ages of 14 and 16. If they are over 14 years of age, they strictly cannot be sent to the Reformatory as the minimum term of detention there is two years. On a great majority of boys a whipping has absolutely no effect whatever, and so little do they mind it that they hardly consider it any punishment at all. In support of this, I may say that whenever a boy is charged with an offence before the magistrate, and is asked his age, he invariably tries to make himself out much younger than he actually is, in order that he may be whipped instead of being fined or imprisoned."

The number of lads sentenced to be whipped in 1901 was 689, as against 959 in 1900 and 737 in 1899.

There is more crime in the period from September to January inclusive when there is less employment for the labouring population than during any other period of the year. Prædial larceny and petty theft largely increase. The principal offences by females are disorderly conduct, using abusive language, and so on to assaulting and beating. These offences are responsible for as much as 55·18 per cent. of the annual crime of the female population, and are due in a great measure to overcrowding, lack of occupation, and the absence of any restraining influence.

With regard to prædial larceny, the Attorney-General writes as follows:—

"I venture to think that looking to local conditions, namely, the large number of people living in confined areas and surrounded by fields of provisions and sugar cane, the result is not worse than might reasonably be expected."

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

(A.) POPULATION.

1901 was the year in which a Census of the population should have been taken, and it is very much to be regretted that in view of the necessity for saving the expense which would have had to be incurred in taking it the century has been opened without a record of the useful statistics and information which a Census affords. A knowledge of such matters as the distribution of the population and its growth or shrinkage especially in the principal centre, Bridgetown, would necessarily have been of great assistance in the work of properly administering the Colony. However, the Government did what it could, and from the information which was available worked out the population as numbering 195,588. In 1891, when the last Census was taken, the total population was returned at 182,306.

It is estimated that after allowing for emigration the population of the Island increases at the average rate of 1,100 per annum.

There were 7,221 births, being 116 less than in 1900, which in its turn was 116 less than the number registered in 1899. Of these, 3,252 were legitimate and 3,969 illegitimate. The following comparative statement shows the regrettable fact that during the last ten years, at any rate, there has been little or no headway made in improving the morality of the people.

Year.	Births.		Estimated population.	Percentage of illegitimate children born.
	Legitimate.	Illegitimate.		
1892	3,167	3,910	183,000	2·13
1893	3,505	4,266	184,000	2·31
1894	3,213	4,095	185,000	2·21
1895	3,526	4,021	187,000	2·15
1896	3,125	3,861	188,500	2·04
1897	3,300	3,897	190,000	2·05
1898	3,226	3,933	191,500	2·05
1899	3,240	3,798	193,000	1·45
1900	3,389	3,948	194,500	2·03
1901	3,252	3,969	196,000	2·02

There is no registration of deaths in Barbados, but in 1901 the burials numbered 5,762. It is unfortunate that a system of notifying and recording the causes of death does not exist because without it any system of sanitary administration must necessarily be incomplete.

The death-rate in each parish is shown by the following table:—

Parish.	Recorded Burials.			Death rate per 1,000.		
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1899.	1900.	1901.
St. Michael	1,944	2,006	2,216	34·6	35·7	39·4
St. Philip	547	405	604	29·3	21·6	32·3
Christ Church	512	463	594	23·8	21·5	27·6
St. George	349	367	455	21·7	22·8	28·3
St. John	208	189	267	18·9	17·2	24·3
St. Thomas	254	265	374	25·1	26·2	37·0
St. James	271	280	333	25·7	26·6	31·7
St. Peter	296	246	277	27·3	22·7	25·6
St. Lucy	255	177	257	26·1	18·1	26·3
St. Andrew	122	93	155	14·0	10·6	17·7
St. Joseph	210	172	230	23·2	19·1	25·4
Total	4,968	4,663	5,762	27·2	25·5	31·6

The following table gives the number of burials of children under one year, compared with two previous years, and shows the percentage of these deaths to the total death. The percentages vary from 53·1 in St. James (closely followed by St. Peter and St. John) to 39·5 in St. Michael. For the whole Island, the percentage is 43·5, which is the highest since 1895:—

Parish.	Infants under one year.			Percentage of Total deaths.		
	1899.	1900.	1901.	1899.	1900.	1901.
St. Michael ...	732	763	876	37·6	38·0	39·5
St. Philip... ...	248	175	299	45·3	43·2	49·5
Christ Church ...	199	211	263	38·8	40·0	44·2
St. George ...	126	147	190	36·1	40·0	41·7
St. John	92	75	136	44·2	39·1	50·9
St. Thomas ...	102	113	157	40·1	42·6	41·9
St. James... ...	148	164	177	54·6	58·5	53·1
St. Peter	120	95	142	40·5	38·6	51·2
St. Lucy	145	77	108	47·0	43·5	41·9
St. Andrew ...	71	39	62	41·8	41·9	40·0
St. Joseph ...	75	73	101	35·7	42·4	43·9
Total	2,058	1,932	2,511	41·2	41·4	43·5

(B.) PUBLIC HEALTH.

The general health of the people has on the whole been very satisfactory, and this no doubt is in a great measure due to the excellent water supply which the Government distributes free throughout the Island at an annual cost of £28,000. Mild epidemics of dysentery and influenza prevailed, but excepting in the parish of St. Philip where there were 42 cases during the last half year, the usually prevalent typhoid fever has not been strongly in evidence. In one locality where 10 cases of typhoid occurred the outbreak of the disease was traced to the use of a polluted water supply, and the Government thereupon authorised an expenditure of £356 in extending the Government water mains to the villages concerned.

During the year the parochial authorities were requested to furnish returns to the Government of the number of cases of phthisis existing and which have occurred in each parish during the previous five years. The information supplied was not complete owing to the absence of any system of registration of deaths in the Colony, but it shows that in connection with poor relief 30 cases have been known to the parochial medical officers during the half year in nine out of the eleven parishes, and 368 cases and deaths have been known or recorded during the previous five years in eight parishes. There is more or less unanimity among the Board of Guardians and medical officers as to the need of a hospital for consumption, and this is certainly one of the wants of the Colony. Nothing can, however, be done in this direction until the financial condition of the Colony has improved.

Dr. G. C. Low, Craggs Scholar, from the London School of Tropical Medicine, visited Barbados for the purpose of enquiring into the prevalence of malarial fevers. He found them non-existent in consequence of the absence of the "anopheles" mosquito. On the other hand, he reported that the prevalence of filarial diseases, propagated by mosquitos of another genus, was very alarming, more than 12·5 per cent. of 600 persons examined, giving evidence of the presence of filarial embryos in the blood. Dr. Low formulated suggestions for the purpose of diminishing this prevalence of filarial diseases, all of which, after approval by the Barbados branch of the British Medical Association, have been made known as far as possible. Dr. Low himself gave three elementary lectures to sanitary inspectors, medical men, and the general public.

As showing the scepticism which prevails with regard to the breeding of mosquitos in stagnant water and their being the means of propagating filarial and other prevalent diseases, it may be mentioned that a suggestion to the Commissioners of Health of the parish of St. Michael, which includes the populous town of Bridgetown, where water stand-pipes are numerous, that they should pass a Bye-law prohibiting the storage of water in open barrels, casks, &c., for long periods of time was met by the rejoinder that they "saw no necessity for taking steps to give effect to the proposals."

In February, 1902, several cases of small-pox occurred in Bridgetown, the disease being traced to a person arriving in the Colony from Canada. The fact that a large number of the population of the Island is averse to vaccination and that no system of public vaccination exists, places the Colony in a more or less defenceless condition.

It is proposed to present a Bill to the Legislature providing for a system of free public vaccination.

(C.) SANITATION.

The actual work of looking after the sanitation of the Colony is in the hands of the Sanitary Commissioners of each of the eleven parishes into which the Island is partitioned. They are, as stated under the head of Public Boards, appointed by the parish vestries. In each parish there are one or more Sanitary Inspectors, whose duty it is to see that the sanitary bye-laws are observed and to report to the Commissioners irregularities which cannot be dealt with on the spot.

General health matters as, for example, the making and carrying out of regulations relating to yellow fever, plague, small-pox, and so forth are in the hands of the Central Board of Health, the members of which are appointed by the Governor. There are two health officers for the Port of Bridgetown, and a sum of £700 is expended by the Government in connection with the Central Board of Health. The cost of the sanitary work of each parish is defrayed out of the parochial rates and taxes.

(D.) CLIMATE.

The climate is excellent, and during the months of December, January, February, March, and April Barbados is much resorted to by persons who desire to escape an English winter. Throughout these months a cool, refreshing wind blows from the sea across the Island, and as there are several good sea-side hotels and good sea bathing there is probably no more pleasant place to visitors to the West Indies than Barbados.

(1.) *Rainfall.*

The total rainfall for the year taken at the Botanical Station was 79·11 inches, with 175 days of rain as compared with 48·19 inches, and 174 days of rain in 1900. The most rainy months are July, August, September, and October, and it is during these months that there is most likelihood of hurricanes.

(2.) *Temperature.*

The highest temperature was 89° and the lowest 68°. The mean temperature being 81·5°.

(3.) *Direction and Force of the Wind.*

The direction and force of the wind is given in the following table:—

Direction.	January.			February.			March.			April.			May.			June.			July.			August.			September.			October.			November.			December.			Total.		
	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.	9 a.m.	3 p.m.	Mean.
E.	8	8	8·0	12	9	10·5	12	9	10·5	8	7	7·5	12	10	11·0	10	12	11·0	11	13	12·0	14	12	13·0	8	5	6·5	5	4	4·5	18	15	16·5	11	10	10·5	129	114	121·5
E.N.	9	7	8·0	10	6	8·0	8	12	10·0	2	2	2·0	2	4	3·0	5	2	3·5	9	6	7·5	3	4	3·5	2	3	2·5	1	3	2·0	3	3	3·0	7	4	5·5	61	56	58·5
E.N.E.	—	1	0·5	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	2	—	1·0	1	—	0·5	1	1	1·0	—	2	1·0	1	1	1·0	1	1	1·0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	7	6·5
E.S.	4	3	3·5	4	6	5·0	8	6	7·0	12	13	12·5	6	6	6·0	6	4	5·0	5	3	4·0	5	3	4·0	1	1	1·0	4	5	4·5	5	3	4·0	2	4	3·0	62	57	59·5
E.S.E.	—	2	1·0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	1	—	0·5	—	1	0·5	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	3·0
N.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	0·5	1	1	1·0	1	—	0·5	—	1	0·5	—	—	—	3	2	2·5
N.E.	1	2	1·5	—	3	1·5	1	1	1·0	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1·5	3	2	2·5	1	1	1·0	1	4	2·5	4	3	3·5	—	1	0·5	—	—	—	13	18	15·5
N.N.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	—	1	0·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1·5
N.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	1	—	0·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1·5
S.	—	1	0·5	1	—	0·5	—	—	—	1	—	0·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1·0	1	—	0·5	—	—	—	5	7	6·0	1	3	2·0	—	—	—	10	12	11·0
S.E.	9	7	8·0	1	3	2·0	1	—	0·5	5	5	5·0	7	9	8·0	4	6	5·0	1	2	1·5	3	3	3·0	5	5	5·0	3	1	2·0	1	1	1·0	1	1	1·0	41	43	42·0
S.S.E.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	2	—	1·0	1	—	0·5	—	—	—	—	2	1·0	2	—	1·0	3	2	2·5	1	1	1·0	—	—	—	9	6	7·5
S.S.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1·0	1	1	1·0	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2·0
S.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	—	1	0·5	1	1	1·0	—	—	—	3	3	3·0	3	3	3·0	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	9	8·0
W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1·5
W.S.W.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0·5	—	1	0·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1·0

MEMO.—E., 121·5 days; E.N., 58·5 days; E.N.E., 6·5 days; E.S., 59·5 days; E.S.E., 3 days; N., 25 days; N.E., 15·5 days; N.N.E., 1·5 days; N.W., 1·5 days; S. 11 days; S.E., 42 days; S.S.E., 7·5 days; S.S.W., 2 days; S.W., 8 days; W., 1 day; W.S.W., 1 day.

VIII.—POSTAL AND TELEPHONE SERVICES.

The Post Office business continues to increase. It is estimated that since the introduction of the universal 1*d*. postage rate in 1898, the number of letters despatched from Barbados annually has increased by 216,366, the year under review showing an increase of 84,465 over the number despatched in 1900.

Registered articles have increased by 3,155, as follows:—

Year.	No.
1900	15,671
1901	18,836

Revised regulations for the sale of postage stamps by stamp vendors have been issued and are working satisfactorily. Sales are now more closely confined to the Post Offices without in any way causing inconvenience to the general public.

The system under which small sums of money can be remitted by post by means of postal orders of fixed value has been properly tried for the first time, the post offices in the parishes of St. Philip, St. John, St. Peter and St. Lucy having been made available for the issue and cashing of orders. Hitherto postal orders were only issued and cashed in Bridgetown and the usefulness of the arrangement was therefore almost entirely lost.

By means of money orders a comparatively large sum is annually sent to persons in Barbados by relatives and others, many of whom have emigrated and found remunerative employment in their new homes. The following figures show the sums so sent during the last two years:—

From West Indian Colonies:—

Year.	Amount. £	s.	d.
1900	21,222	1	8
1901	23,702	5	8

From the United States—

Year.	Amount. £	s.	d.
1900	2,954	3	4
1901	4,010	17	2

With regard to these remittances, the Colonial Postmaster writes as follows:—

"There was a large increase in the sums remitted from the United States of America, which was no doubt due to the fact that within the last two or three years several persons from this Island have found employment in America and remitted money back to their relatives. This is also true of the emigrants to the British West Indian Colonies. The remittances from British Guiana, Trinidad, St. Lucia, and some other places were, for the most part, made to people of the labouring classes whose relatives abroad frequently send them money."

There is no inland telegraph service, but there is a large and complete telephone system. All the district police stations are connected by telephone with the central police station in Bridgetown, and this service is under Government control and supervision. There is also a telephone service in the hands of a private company which has 510 subscribers. The majority of these are in Bridgetown where the Central Exchange is located, but there are also several country subscribers. Service is given continuously night and day at a cost to each subscriber of £6 a year.

There are also six Government semaphore stations in the Island. These are used only for signalling the advent of hurricanes or exceptionally stormy weather. The semaphores are no longer worked, and the news which is supplied by the United States Weather Bureau is conveyed by the simple process of hoisting two flags.

Cable communication with the outside world is afforded by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company, which receives from the Government of Barbados an annual subsidy of £1,500. There are two routes to the United Kingdom after the arrival of messages at Jamaica, one by the Direct West India Cable Company's line *viâ* Bermuda, and the other the old but less direct route *viâ* the United States.

IX.—MILITARY FORCES AND EXPENDITURE.

(R.) REGULAR FORCES.

The garrison at the close of the year consisted of the headquarters and five companies of the 3rd Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers, and two companies of the 2nd Battalion West India Regiment, under the command of a major-general whose district extends over Barbados, the Leeward and Windward Islands, Trinidad, and British Guiana.

The expenditure upon the Imperial troops in Barbados and St. Lucia (Windward Islands) was £138,317, of which sum £51,817 was spent in Barbados.

The total amount paid by the Colony to the officers, non-commissioned officers and men as allowances in compensation for import duty was £2,377.

(B.) MILITIA.

There is no Militia Force in Barbados.

(C.) VOLUNTEERS.

For several years past the question of forming a Volunteer Corps has been under consideration, but the matter had never been brought to a head in consequence of the schemes put forward being more costly than the Colony could afford to pay for. Soon after my arrival in Barbados, I recommended a very modest scheme, namely, the formation of a force of 50 artillery and 50 infantry, the cost being set down at £1,176 for the first year and £930 for each subsequent year. This scheme met with general approval, and before the year closed a Bill giving effect to it had been passed by the Legislature, the money had been voted, the requisite number of men had been enrolled, an orderly room and armoury provided, and all arrangements made for commencing the training of the men on the 2nd January, 1902.

The Force was, I am glad to record, added to by the voluntary enrolment of 50 men as cyclists with the understanding that they were also to be trained as infantry. In view of the excellent roads which exist everywhere throughout the Colony the cyclist company should prove most useful.

The Imperial Government rendered very material assistance by presenting the Force with 50 magazine Lee-Enfield rifles and 50 Martini-Enfield carbines, one ·303-inch Maxim machine gun with field carriage, and 4·9-pr. R.M.L. guns with carriages, ammunition waggons and limbers, and 800 rounds of ammunition.

(D.) CONSTABULARY.

The land police, consisting of 237 non-commissioned officers and men are armed, and are as far as possible trained in the use of the rifle and to move in military formation. 43 constables are mounted and, as opportunity offers, will be annually put through a course of mounted infantry drill. It is proposed to similarly train seven additional constables so as to increase this very useful body to 50. The remainder of the men are trained as infantry. The mounted men are armed with the Martini-Enfield carbine, and the remainder with the Martini-Enfield rifle.

In 1901, 292 constables were put through a course of musketry instruction with very fair results. Prizes for the encouragement of good shooting are awarded.

X.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Reference has been made in this report under the head of "General Revenue and Expenditure" to the introduction on the 26th June, 1899, of a tariff designed to secure the admission into Barbados either duty free or at considerably reduced rates of products of the United States of America in return for a reduction of duty upon sugar and molasses exported to that country. It would be as well to show here what would be the effect of the proposed reciprocal Convention, which it may be stated has not yet been signed, to give effect to these arrangements.

The Government of the United States charges a duty of $1.44½ on every 100 lbs. of 89 degrees test Muscovado sugar. The Convention proposes to reduce this duty by 18 cents. If Barbados were to send an average of 50,000 short tons of 2,000 lbs. each to the United States, the effect of the reduction to the United States would be a loss of revenue of £37,500, and a corresponding gain to the producer here. It is estimated that the reduction of duty upon and, in certain cases, the free admission of articles of commerce from the United States will produce a loss of revenue to Barbados of £30,000 a year which will have to be made up by taxing other articles somewhat more heavily. The poorer classes would probably be the gainers should the Convention come into force, because foodstuffs which are very largely imported from the United States would be considerably cheapened. It has been argued that the whole of the 18 cents reduction of duty upon sugar imported into the United States would not find its way into the pockets of the planters, but this pre-supposes that the planters are not business men and will let the merchants who buy the sugar from them and ship it pay less per hogshead than they ought to pay. The International Sugar Convention signed at Brussels on the 5th March, 1901, will, it is hoped, have the effect of restoring the market price of sugar to a point more nearly approximating to its value before bounties and kartels were introduced, but as regards the West Indian sugar producing islands like Barbados, it cannot alter the hard fact that the freight charges for Muscovado sugar sent to the United States amount to less than 10*s*. a ton, whereas to London they are 25*s*. a ton.

The present low price of sugar everywhere prevailing ought not to be put down altogether to over-production due to the application of the direct and indirect bounty system, for there has been another cause at work, namely, the cheapening of the price of production by the application of a scientific process of agriculture and the establishment of proper machinery for the purpose of extracting the maximum quantity of juice. This is a perfectly legitimate means of cheapening and results equally to the benefit of the manufacturer and the consumer. The removal of bounties should restore the equilibrium between demand and supply, and it may then become possible to maintain a fair average remunerative price.

Under the head of Legislation reference has been made to the Railway Act, No. 11, and to the Cane Fires (Prevention) Act, No. 18, which were passed during the year, and it may be useful to record the reasons which led to the passing of these Acts and the results which have been obtained.

The prevalence of cane fires was one of the first matters to attract my attention. They were made prominent not only by their number but by the extraordinary fact that no concerted steps were being made to ascertain the prevailing cause of them and, in the case of incendiary fires, to bring the incendiaries to justice. The magistrates had power to hold an enquiry in every case, but the power had not been exercised since 1879 because it was feared that persistent enquiry would lead the labouring population to think that they had only to set fire to a cane field to ensure their having an opportunity afforded them of making known their real or supposed grievances, and that more harm than good might be done.

The fires are best classified as follows:—acts of incendiarism, sparks from railway locomotives, smoking in the cane fields, and accidents.

My opinion that active steps should be taken towards stamping out or at any rate minimising cane fires was readily adopted by the Legislature, with the result that the Railawy Act, No. 11, dealing with sparks from locomotives and the Cane Fires (Prevention) Act, No. 18, which prohibits smoking in a field of canes and authorises the offer of rewards for information which may lead to the conviction of persons for arson were passed. At the same time a more rigid system of police patrolling was introduced, and the magistrates were ordered to hold an enquiry in every case.

The period from the 1st December to the 31st March is that during which cane fires are most prevalent, and the following figures show the result of the action taken:—

Years.	Classification of Cane Fires.				Totals
	Incendiary.	Tobacco Smoking.	Railway Locomotives.	Accidents and Unknown.	
1898-1899...	63	—	4	27	94
1899-1900...	112	1	3	58	174
1900-1901...	86	1	13	71	171
1901-1902...	46	—	1	8	55

Note—Under the head of Accidents and unknown are probably included fires really due to incendiarism and smoking.

The result is satisfactory as far as it goes. The labourer has yet to be taught that cane fires necessarily diminish the output of sugar and so affect the fund available for wages and that he is as much interested as any one else in preventing fires. Further, the conspiracy of silence with which the crime of incendiarism is hedged around has to be broken down. The Government often knows by whom a fire has been set but prosecution is prevented by inability to obtain reliable evidence. Only in one case was an incendiary brought to justice. There had been a succession of cane fires at plantation "Sandy Lane" and a cordon of detectives had been placed there. The miscreant was caught red-handed. A special session of the High Court was held and, the evidence being conclusive, the man was convicted and received a sentence of 10 years' penal servitude.

In October it was decided to locate some of the Boer prisoners in Barbados, and arrangements were at once made for their reception. A site known as "Fortescue" was selected for the location of the Boer leaders, and the ordinary prisoners of war were to have been placed on large and extensive pasture lands designated by the military authorities, "Crane Camp." Both sites overlooked the sea on the windward side of the Island, and were in every way suitable. The termination of the Boer war necessarily caused an abandonment of the scheme, but the formation of the two camps gave employment to a large number of persons at a time when work was slack, and when owing to the untoward condition of the sugar industry money was scarce. Regrets have not unnaturally been expressed at the loss of trade consequent upon the non-arrival of the Boers, but they have been more than counterbalanced by the general feeling of pleasure at the termination of the war and at the manner in which it was terminated.

In consequence of a very heavy and continuous rainfall on the 28th, 29th and 30th September, a very serious land movement manifested itself on the 1st October in the north-eastern district of the Island at Boscobel. The whole area between the range of hills and the sea commenced to slide forward towards the sea, and, in the movement, to break up the surface, causing deep fissures and destroying the roads and buildings. Some 85 houses were broken down and about 500 persons rendered homeless. A public meeting was held in Bridgetown at which a relief fund was started, and a sum sufficient to meet all reasonable claims was very generously subscribed.

The year witnessed many changes in the Government service.

Mr. Ralph Williams, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, was appointed Resident Commissioner of British Bechuanaland, and left Barbados on the 13th April, being succeeded later by Mr. F. J. Newton, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of British Honduras.

Dr. F. B. Archer who had for a long period held the appointments of Visiting Surgeon of the General Hospital, Assistant

Health Officer, and Surveyor of Butchers' Meat, died on the 20th September, 1901

Dr. A. Field who had held the post of Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum since the 1st of January, 1879, died on the 30th December.

Dr. Thomas Bowen resigned his appointments of Health Officer, Surgeon of Glendairy Prison, and Medical to Police and Fire Brigade, District "A," from the 12th of September.

The Honourable John Kellman who had held a seat in the Legislative Council for a period of 17 years, resigned on account of ill-health, and was succeeded by Mr. J. Gardiner Austin, a Member of the House of Assembly. Mr. Kellman died on the 9th September.

The roads of the Colony are, as a general rule, excellent, and are well looked after by the Highway Commissioners. In the low-lying lands on the windward side of the Island there has been considerable difficulty in maintaining the roads in order in consequence of land movements due to the excessive rainfall. The road was carried away, and bridges were destroyed in many places. It became necessary under the circumstances for the Government to make a special grant of money to supplement the parochial revenues, namely, £200 to the parish of St. Joseph, and £150 to the parish of St. Andrew.

The railway which runs from Bridgetown to St. Andrew, a distance of 28 miles, is in the hands of a private company. It runs two trains daily in both directions, and although at present not financially successful should in the future, if the sugar industry revives, prove to be so.

During the year the renewal of the bridge across the careenage, now known as the Victoria Bridge, was completed, and the bridge opened for traffic on 20th January, 1902. Considerable progress has also been made in the renewal in some places and strengthening of the two sides of careenage known locally as the wharf walls.

The rate of wages for agricultural work varies from 10*d.* to 1*s.* 6*d.* per day for men, 6*d.* to 10*d.* for women and from 3*d.* to 6*d.* per day for children. Although the rate of wages may appear low when viewed from the standpoint of the dwellers in temperate climes who have to supply themselves with warm clothing and extra fuel and food in the winter months, it must be remembered that the Barbados labourer only needs light cotton clothing when at his daily avocation, and a light wooden building for his dwelling.

It may, therefore, be said that the rate of wages, although small, are not out of proportion to the cost of living, which is about five cents per day, provided the labourer obtains continuous employment. This, however, is at present far from the case, as it is only during the reaping of the sugar crop that continuous work is obtainable. From August to the end of December many of the agricultural labourers suffer greatly from want owing to the inability of the sugar estates to provide continuous occupation consequent upon the low price of sugar.

There is no opening for white labour in Barbados.

The social condition of the people of Barbados cannot be regarded as satisfactory. To a superficial observer it would not appear to be distressful, but there is nevertheless considerable distress underlying general appearances. The necessity for curtailing expenses in every direction in the production of sugar has increased the already existing penury among the labouring classes. The following extracts from reports made to the parochial authorities will depict the state of things better than any words of mine:—

Extract from the quarterly report, July to September, of the Medical Officer for the parish of St. Thomas:—

"Poverty is steadily increasing throughout the Island, and unless some system of emigration under Government control be established to induce our people to cultivate the fertile islands in our immediate neighbourhood, the keeping alive of such a large and numerous population as is represented by our labouring classes will be a problem far beyond the power of our parochial system of poor relief, and indeed will tax to the utmost the resources of any Government. Already I can clearly see that the present system of poor relief is inadequate, and there is a vast amount of poverty verging on starvation which is being patiently borne by thousands of our labouring classes."

Extract from the minute book of the Board of Guardians of the parish of St. Thomas, October, 1901:—

"The local inspector begged to call the attention of the Board to the extreme poverty of the labourers in the parish, and especially to the children; that he considered they were most of them suffering from want of proper and sufficient food, and that the strength of the labourer was greatly reduced, and for the want of food he could not now perform a day's work as heretofore, and that the children were really dying for want of proper food and care, and suggested that some means be adopted to give them something to eat. The matter was discussed by the Board, who were of opinion that this state of things was correct and that they would consider the matter."

Extract from the quarterly report, October to December, of the Medical Officer for the parish of St. Lucy:—

"One cannot help observing the very low state of the general health of the majority of the labouring class. Their power of resistance to any disease of an epidemic form would be very slight, and there is no doubt that want of proper and sufficient nourishment is the cause of their present state of health."

I cannot do better than close this report with a reference to emigration, which is regarded by most people as the panacea for all troubles arising from over-population or a decreasing wages fund. Unfortunately, the Barbadian is personally averse to leaving his country, and few of the neighbouring colonies are willing to receive him because of his general independence of character which chafes against the restraints necessarily imposed upon immigrants. An opportunity occurred during the year of affording the unemployed and semi-destitute an opportunity of emigrating in large numbers to Ecuador, where a railway is under construction by a firm of English contractors. The contractors sent an agent to Barbados to collect labourers, but only a comparatively few persons were indentured, and although every assistance was given to the agent his mission proved a failure.

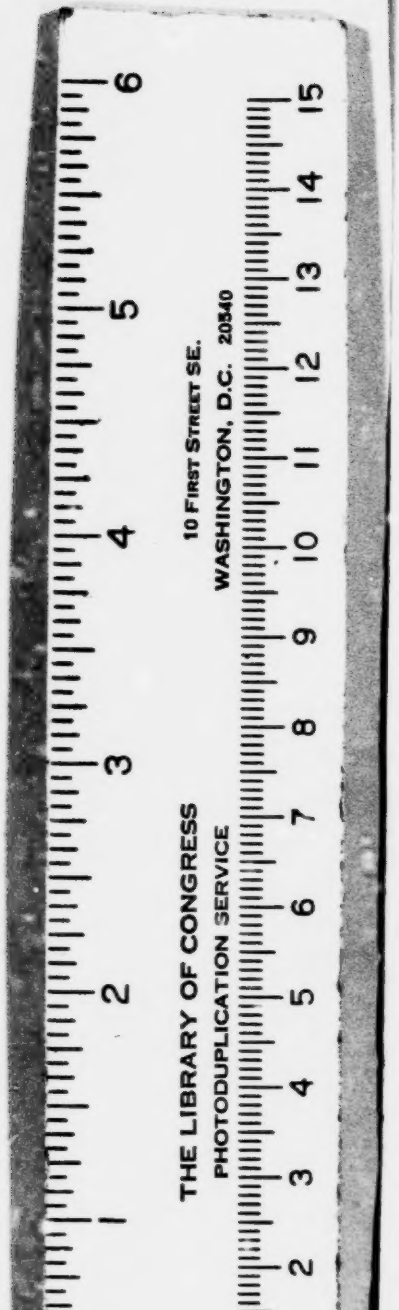
Although the pressure of population forces the Barbadian native to be industrious and hard-working while living in Barbados, it is open to doubt whether these desirable qualities remain when he is relieved from the stern necessity of continuous daily toil.

It is well known that the Barbadian regards his native home with much pride and affection, and that when he makes a little money elsewhere his thoughts are towards the land of his birth, and his wish is to get back to it. These facts cannot be disregarded in connection with any scheme of emigration. They lead one to think that the establishment of the indenture system would on the whole prove more agreeable and therefore more successful than any scheme which means permanent expatriation. But on the other hand, the Barbadian native, like every negro, is averse to being bound by contracts. They carry his mind back to the condition of the people before the days of emancipation, and he sees only in contracts a form subtly devised by the white man for replacing the yoke of slavery round his neck. Emigration under contract has more than once been tried with the Barbadian, and has invariably failed. Nevertheless, for short periods of two years, accompanied with special terms, contracts might succeed.

The question of emigrating Barbadians has been fully threshed out. Many schemes have been propounded but in all of them the question how to overcome the intense aversion of the Barbadian to leave Barbados excepting for short intervals remains unsolved. And now there is the added difficulty of lack of funds to carry out any system of emigration.

I have, &c.,

F. M. HODGSON.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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 398.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1902-3.

(For Report for 1901-2, *see* No. 368.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1903.

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COLONIAL REPORTS.

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ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
375	Gold Coast	1901
376	Grenada	„
377	Northern Nigeria	1901–1902
378	British Guiana	1901
379	Mauritius	1901–1902
380	Basutoland	1901
381	Southern Nigeria	1901–1902
382	Trinidad and Tobago	1902
383	Bermuda	1901
384	St. Lucia	„
385	St. Vincent	1902
386	Falkland Islands	„
387	Gibraltar...	„
388	Weihaiwei	„
389	Sierra Leone	„
390	British Honduras	„
391	Gambia	„
392	St. Helena	„
393	Hong Kong	„
394	Turks and Caicos Islands	„
395	Seychelles	„
396	Ceylon	„
397	Gold Coast	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
1	Gold Coast	Economic Agriculture.
2	Zululand...	Forests.
3	Sierra Leone	Geology and Botany.
4	Canada	Emigration.
5	Bahamas...	Sisal Industry.
6	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague.
7	Newfoundland	Mineral Resources.
8	Western Pacific...	British Solomon Islands.
9	Dominica	Agriculture.
10	Virgin Islands	Condition during 1897.
11	Grenada	Agriculture in Carriacou.
12	Anguilla	Vital Statistics, 1898.
13	Cook Islands	Trade, 1899.
14	Bahamas...	Fibre Industry.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in New Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies... ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.

No. 398.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1901-2, *see* No. 368.)

ACTING GOVERNOR KNAGGS to MR. CHAMBERLAIN

Government House,
25th August, 1903.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1902-1903, and my report thereon.

2. I regret that there has been unusual delay this year in the publication of the Blue Book.

I have, &c.,
S. W. KNAGGS.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR 1902-3.

FINANCIAL RETURNS.

The record of the financial year 1902-1903 is necessarily rather a gloomy one. An epidemic of small-pox broke out in February, 1902, and lasted, with only a few weeks interval, until April, 1903; and throughout the whole of this period a rigid quarantine was enforced against the Island by the other West Indian colonies. As a consequence there was an almost entire cessation of the transhipping trade and of the inter-colonial trade carried on by small craft, and the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company were compelled for a time to remove their headquarters to Trinidad. Thus on the one hand the epidemic had a most disastrous effect on the trade and on the revenue of the Colony, while on the other hand the expenditure necessarily incurred in endeavouring to stamp out the disease proved a severe strain on the Treasury. The surplus of £28,577 with which the financial year opened soon dwindled away, and it became evident that some additional revenue must be provided to enable the Government to meet its obligations. Accordingly, on the 21st of October, 1902, Acts were passed by the Legislature increasing the Customs duties by 20 per cent. for the remainder of the financial year and raising the rum duty from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* a gallon. Unhappily the necessity for these increases did not cease, as was anticipated, on the 31st March, 1903, and they have been continued for another year.

2. Even this increased taxation, however, did not prove sufficient. To add to the difficulties of the situation, the sugar crop of 1903 began to show signs of failure in consequence of unusually dry weather, and towards the close of the year it became necessary to effect a temporary loan from the Colonial Bank of £7,000 (of which, however, only £4,185 was expended) to enable the Treasury to meet the claims upon it.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Appendices A. and B.

3. The Revenue of the year was £161,585, and the Expenditure, £194,347; an excess of expenditure of £32,762. Of this, £17,804 is attributable to expenses incurred in connection with the small-pox epidemic.

4. The Revenue, notwithstanding the increase of the Customs and rum duties previously referred to, fell short of the estimate by £21,690, and was less than that of the year 1901-1902 by

£18,387. The heads under which the chief deficiencies occurred as compared with the previous year were:—

	£
Customs	12,442
Port and Harbour Dues	737
Excise	3,057
Licences	402
Water Works	1,097

all of which sources of revenue were affected either by the quarantine or the failure of the sugar crop, or by both. The last item represents the falling off in the supply of water to shipping.

5. The Expenditure exceeded the estimate by £9,716, but was £18,997 higher than that of the previous year, in comparison with which the following increases are found:—

	£
Post Office	587
Medical	17,630
Volunteer Force	494
Pensions	1,338
Subsidies and Grants	1,872
Miscellaneous	1,572

The excess under the head of "Subsidies and Grants" is due to the larger military duty allowances made to the Forces in consequence of the increased Customs duties; and the item "Miscellaneous" includes the sum of £1,200 granted in aid of the sufferers by the disasters at St. Vincent and Martinique.

6. It will be seen from the foregoing figures that the Treasury opened the financial year with a balance of £28,577 and closed with a deficit of £4,185, which was met by the temporary loan above-mentioned.

PUBLIC DEBT.

7. Except for this loan, which it is hoped the Colony will soon be in a position to repay, no increase was made during the year to the Public Debt, which now stands at £428,600. The sinking fund accumulations amount to £59,714.

PAROCHIAL BOARDS.

Appendices C. and D.

8. Appendices "C" and "D" furnish statistics of the Revenue and Expenditure of the several parochial boards.

CUSTOMS.

Appendices E. to G.

9. The returns under this head are compiled for the year 1902, not for the financial year. The customs revenue for the year shows, as compared with that of 1901, a decrease of £13,074. The Comptroller of Customs points out that this falling off would have been larger but for the operation from the 21st October to the 31st December of the 20 per cent. additional rate which brought an increase to the revenue of £2,390; but it is impossible to estimate in a year of such exceptional conditions how far the increase of the duties may have affected the consumption. It has also to be noted that on the occasion of the increase of the duties large quantities of goods were passed through the Customs as soon as it became known that the duties were likely to be increased, an event which will be duly guarded against whenever the next occasion may arise.

IMPORTS.

10. There was a decrease in the value of the imports of £149,000, of which £59,284 was due to the cessation of the transit trade during the quarantine. The following table shows the articles on which decreases occurred as compared with 1901:—

Articles.	Decrease.
	£
Animals, living	4,745
Bran and Pollard	1,046
Bread and Crackers	4,911
Butter and Oleomargarine	6,768
Coffee	229
Corn and Grain, including Oats	15,058
Cornmeal	8,790
Cotton, Linen, Silk and Woollen Goods	47,093
Fish, salted	1,967
Flour, Wheat or Rye	12,319
Hardware, including Metal, new	6,150
Leather and manufactures thereof, including Boots and Shoes.	3,072
Liquors	4,923
Machinery	11,914
Manures and Fertilizers	24,659
Meat, salted and cured	1,435
Oils, except Whale and Petroleum	1,989
Oilmeal and Oilcake	6,176
Soap	5,183
Staves	9,244

It will be seen that these decreases have occurred chiefly in estates' supplies and in the articles consumed by the people. The prolonged period of quarantine not only reduced their ordinary power of purchasing but it prevented the export to the neighbouring colonies of the large quantities of sweet potatoes and other produce grown for the purpose. These therefore entered into local consumption and displaced a considerable amount of food-stuffs which would otherwise have paid duty to the Treasury.

11. Increases in the value of the imports occurred under the following heads:—

	£
Coal	1,241
Drugs and chemicals...	1,238
Rice	22,574
Lumber	5,133

12. The volume of trade continued to run very much through the same channels as in previous years. The following table shows the countries of origin of the imports:—

	£
United Kingdom	381,447
United States of America	283,675
British North America	81,186
British West Indies	47,516
East Indies	15,898
British Guiana	26,580
Foreign West Indies	9,677
Chile	6,825
Uruguay	985
Other places	18,890
	£872,679

The value of the imports from British North America was £81,186, being a slight increase on that of the previous year. The principal articles imported were:—

	Value. £
Bacon and hams	37
Beef and pork, salted or pickled ...	753
Bran and pollard	68
Butter	187
Cornmeal	18
Fish, salted	36,155
Flour, wheat or rye	3,948
Grain, unenumerated	131
Oats	2,918
Wood, white pine, pitch pine, &c. ...	22,024
„ shingles	3,512
„ staves	7,018

EXPORTS.

13. The value of the exports of local products fell short of those of 1901 by £298,426, the deficiencies being under the following heads:—

	£
Sugar	262,791
Molasses	24,156
Other products	11,479

The decrease under sugar and molasses is due not only to a smaller crop, but also to a fall in the price, muscovado sugar having fallen from £8 10*s.* per hogshead in 1901 to £5 15*s.* in 1902, and the puncheon of molasses from £3 2*s.* 6*d.* to £2 16*s.* The diminished export of other produce is attributable to the quarantine restrictions enforced against the Colony.

14. The exports were to the following countries:—

	£
United Kingdom	22,797
United States of America	283,311
British North America	122,199
British West Indies	11,216
British Guiana	4,215
French Guiana	1,152
Foreign West Indies	435
Bermuda	172
Dutch Guiana	85
	£445,582

15. The exports of sugar and molasses were as under:—

Countries.	Sugar.	Molasses.	Total.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	16,828	1,103	17,931
British North America	7,745	114,282	122,027
Other British Colonies	2,723	4,178	6,901
United States America	274,082	137	274,219
Other Foreign Countries... ...	224	28	252
Total	301,602	119,728	421,330

Only a small quantity of rum was exported, the value being £207, and the larger part of this was for ships' stores. Minor products to the value of £24,188 were exported as under:—

—	Value.
	£
Aerated Mineral Waters	757
Animals, living	891
Art, Works of	29
Chemical manufactures...	1,920
Fruit and Vegetables, fresh	6,119
Hides, raw	1,199
Ice...	690
Lime, building and temper	1,706
Manjak	7,817
Oil, Whale	457
Plants	409
Tamarinds	689
Other Minor Products, unenumerated...	1,505
Total...	24,188

16. Owing to the prolonged quarantine the value of the transit trade fell from £206,167 to £146,883, a loss of £59,284.

Excise.

17. The revenue from the rum duty for the last five years has been:—

Year.	Value.
	£
1898	32,420
1899	29,548
1900	26,959
1901	27,546
1902-3	24,280

The gradual falling off in the receipts is attributable to the general depression caused by the unsatisfactory condition of the sugar industry, which was aggravated last year by the unfortunate occurrences which have been previously explained.

18. The rate of the excise duty was 2*s.* 6*d.* per gallon up to October last, when it was raised to 3*s.* The intention to increase the duty became known, however, and, as a consequence, a large quantity of rum was duty paid at the lower rate immediately before the increase took effect. The revenue

of the year under review benefited but little, therefore, from the increase.

19. The rum exported has dwindled down to a negligible quantity, as will be seen from the figures given below:—

1898	exported	18,451	gallons.
1899	„	13,693	„
1900	„	43,632	„
1901	„	19,423	„
1902	„	2,757	„

The reason given for this is that locally-manufactured rum cannot compete in price with that from other Colonies.

20. The local consumption was 204,167 gallons during the year 1902, an average of 1·04 gallons per head of the estimated population.

21. Mr. J. Steele, C.B., formerly of the Inland Revenue Department, visited the Colony in 1902 and made an investigation of the Excise system. The adoption of the suggestions made in his report,* which has now been issued, will, it is hoped, place this important branch of the Service on a safer and more satisfactory footing.

SHIPPING.

Appendix H.

22. The dislocation of trade that prevailed during the greater part of the year interfered of course considerably with the shipping business of the port of Bridgetown, though the figures show that this was more especially so in the case of the small craft that carry on an inter-colonial trade with Barbados as a centre.

23. The following tables give the particulars of the vessels entered and cleared:—

TABLE 1.

—	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total Ships.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Entered ...	377	645,568	490	62,494	867	708,062
Cleared ...	379	648,359	499	62,914	878	711,273

---

* [Cd. 1681], July, 1903.

TABLE 2.

Nation.	Steamers Entered.		Sailing Vessels Entered.		Total Ships Entered.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British ...	361	621,848	435	39,797	796	661,645
American ...	—	—	26	13,062	26	13,062
Norwegian	8	8,367	3	1,256	11	9,623
Others ...	8	15,853	26	8,379	34	23,732
Totals...	377	645,568	490	62,494	867	708,062

LEGISLATION.

24. Forty Acts were passed by the Leigslature during the year, some of the most important being:—

No. 12. The Reformatory and Industrial School (Girls) Act.

No. 13. The Rum Duty Act.

No. 24. The Plantations in Aid Act.

25. The need of a reformatory for girls is very much felt, the number of offences committed by females being considerably in excess of the male convictions. This is probably due to a variety of causes, but the chief among them is undoubtedly the absence of some means of dealing with girl criminals. The Act above referred to authorises the establishment of a reformatory and industrial school for the purpose, and it is hoped that the finances of the Colony will soon enable the scheme to be carried out.

26. The Rum Duty Act consolidates and amends the law relating to the distillation of rum and to the payment of duty thereon.

27. The Plantations in Aid Act authorised the Government to borrow a sum of £200,000 in aid of the sugar industry, the Imperial Grant of £80,000 and the revenues and assets of the Colony being pledged as security. The methods under which this loan has been appropriated will be explained elsewhere, but it is not too much to say that the scheme has worked admirably and has been instrumental in saving the sugar industry of the Colony from practical extinction.

CIVIL ESTABLISHMENT.

28. The principal changes in the establishment were the promotion of Mr. W. H. Greaves, K.C., Attorney-General, to the office of Chief Justice in succession to the late Sir Conrad Reeves; the appointment of Mr. W. H. Stoker to be Attorney-General; and to the appointment of Mr. S. W. Knaggs to be Colonial Secretary in the place of Mr. Newton, who accepted an appointment in Rhodesia.

29. The offices of Master in Chancery and Official Assignee, which had been hitherto paid by fees, were placed on salaries of £750 and £400, respectively.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

30. The population is estimated at 195,588; an average of 1,178 persons to the square mile. The number of females exceeds the male population by 19,188; there being 88,200 males and 107,388 females. There were 6,503 births and 5,532 deaths, the death-rate being 28·28 per thousand. The number of registered electors was 1,721, less than 1 per cent. of the population. There were 1,464 paupers receiving relief, 897 of them being accommodated in the various almshouses. 13,566 depositors in the Savings Bank had an average deposit to their credit of £14 18*s.* 6*d.*, making a total investment of £202,486. The average number of scholars in the elementary schools was 13,299,—7,034 boys and 6,265 girls. 538 pupils attended the higher schools,—392 boys and 146 girls.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

31. The total number of commitments to the prison during 1902 was 4,500; 2,176 of these being men, 2,306 women, and 18 juveniles who were committed to await trial. The daily average number of prisoners was 444·84—302·28 men and 142·56 women, from which it will be seen that although a larger number of women were convicted, the offences committed by them were not in general of a very grave character. The following table will show the extent to which this is the case. Of the 4,040 persons sentenced during the year, 1,885

were men and 2,155 were women; but the terms of their imprisonment were as under:—

—	Men.	Women.
For 5 years or more	10	1
For 1 year or more up to 5 years	52	9
For more than 3 months up to 1 year	109	33
For 3 months or less	1,714	2,112
Total	1,885	2,155

32. More than 50 per cent. of the prisoners sentenced during the year had been previously convicted, the males and females being very much in equal proportion. The reason for this large number of re-convictions is being carefully investigated.

33. Only 40 per cent. of the male and 34 per cent. of the female prisoners were found to be able to read and write.

34. The total number of convictions by the magistrates was 11,685, and by the Superior Courts, 117. The offences for which the magistrates convicted were:—

Offences against the person	3,533
Malicious injury to property	96
Prædial larceny	1,128
Offences against Revenue and Highway Acts, &c.	4,599
Other offences	2,329
	11,685

The punishments inflicted were:—

Fined	6,200
Imprisonment in lieu of fine or surety...	3,581
Peremptory imprisonment	1,336
Whipping	463
Other trivial punishment	105
	11,685

The 117 cases sentenced in the Higher Courts were for:—

Murder	1
Attempt at murder	1
Concealment of birth	1
Rape	3
Other offences against the person ...	17
Robbery with violence	3
Other offences against property	68
Miscellaneous offences	23
	117

35. There were 118 boys in the Boys' Reformatory, being a decrease of 6 in the numbers of last year. There is a great difficulty in finding suitable employment for the boys when they leave the Reformatory, and this to a great extent defeats the good done by the Institution. A scheme is being considered for apprenticing the boys to the masters of the small trading craft that ply between Barbados and the neighbouring islands, which it is hoped will prove successful.

GENERAL REMARKS.

OUTBREAK OF SMALL-POX.

36. The one event of the year which so seriously affected the resources of the Government and the prosperity of the people as for a while to obscure all other matters was the epidemic of small-pox. The first case occurred in February, 1902, in a recent arrival from Canada, and from this the whole Colony became infected.

37. Unfortunately there had been no system of vaccination in the Colony, and it is estimated that not more than one half of the dense population had ever been vaccinated, and that there had practically been no re-vaccination at all. The disease, therefore, when once it started began to spread rapidly, and very vigorous measures were necessary to deal with it. The quarantine station at Pelican Island was enlarged and a special medical officer was placed in charge of it, while district hospitals were established in the rural districts. All cases as soon as discovered were either strictly isolated or removed to hospital, and all contacts were segregated at first on Pelican Island, and later, when that became overcrowded, in the buildings of the old lunatic asylum, the house in which the case occurred being thoroughly disinfected. Every endeavour was made by the people to escape detection in order to avoid these measures, and it became necessary ultimately to offer a reward for the discovery of cases, which led to better results.

39. The Government meanwhile were alive to the fact that vaccination alone could save the people from an appalling epidemic. The Legislature passed a Bill imposing on the parochial medical officers the duty of vaccinating all paupers free of charge, and all other persons in the parish for a fee of 6*d.*, but the measure proved to be useless, as no applications for vaccination were made under it. Later, however, a further Act was passed authorising the Governor to appoint vaccinators and to pay them a fee of 6*d.* for each vaccination, the lymph being furnished by the Government. At this time, the epidemic having grown to some proportions, the people came forward readily to be vaccinated, and it is estimated that some 59,000 persons were in the course of two months vaccinated by the 259 officers appointed under the Act. Finally, however, it became necessary to offer some further inducement to those still unvaccinated, and a third Act was passed authorising the payment of a bonus of 6*d.* to every one who was successfully vaccinated or revaccinated. This had the desired result, and the returns show that at the cessation of the epidemic in April, 1903, 125,222 persons had been vaccinated at the public cost, while probably some 25,000 had been vaccinated at their own expense.

40. The number of cases of small-pox reported was 1,466, and there were 119 deaths, a death-rate of 8·12. The direct cost to the Colony has been £19,239, and some further charges have still to be met, but it is impossible to estimate what the actual loss has been. The rigid quarantine imposed against the Island by the neighbouring Colonies caused serious loss to many, and the extinction of the transit trade and the temporary withdrawal of the headquarters of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company entailed great hardship on the labouring classes who depend for their livelihood on them.

QUARANTINE.

41. The quarantine measures adopted by the other Colonies during the course of this epidemic did not altogether appear to be necessary or reasonable, and they had the effect of completely ruining for the time the shipping trade of this Colony. Accordingly, a local Commission was appointed to consider how far the conditions agreed upon at the West Indian Quarantine Conference of 1888 can be modified in the light of later medical science. This Commission has reported, and it is hoped that their report will be made the basis of a further conference at which the restrictions hitherto considered necessary will be greatly modified.

VOLCANIC DUST FROM ST. VINCENT.

42. The Island was visited on three occasions by falls of dust ejected from the Soufriere volcano in St. Vincent, namely,

on the 7th May and 16th October, 1902, and on the 22nd March, 1903. It is estimated that on the first occasion over 2,000,000 tons of dust fell here, and on the second and third occasions 400,000 tons and 300,000 tons respectively. Unfortunately the dust has no fertilising value, while it is found to interfere with the grinding of the canes and has proved injurious to stock.

SUGAR CROP.

Appendix I.

43. The sugar crop of 1903 was a very disappointing one, owing to the unusual drought that prevailed during the season when rains are required for the growing canes. The average value of the crops of the previous ten years was £615,609, while the value of the last crop is estimated at only £337,645.

44. An attempt is at present being made, under the auspices of the Imperial Department of Agriculture, to revive the cotton industry in this Colony. A grant of £250 from the Treasury has been supplemented by a gift of £100 from the British Cotton Growing Association, who have also made a present of a gin to the Colony. This gin is now at work in a central factory that has been erected, and the cotton it turns out appears to be of excellent quality. A large supply of seed has been imported and distributed free of cost to planters and it is estimated that shortly some 1,200 acres, capable of yielding about 300,000 lbs. of clean cotton, will be under cultivation. The advantage of the industry to the Colony lies in the fact that the cotton can be grown on land that is unsuitable for the sugar cane, and its introduction will not therefore displace sugar cultivation to any great extent.

IMPERIAL GRANT OF £80,000.

Appendix J.

45. Reference has previously been made to the manner in which, under the Plantations in Aid Act, the Imperial Grant of £80,000 have been utilised for the benefit of the sugar industry in this Colony. The annexed report by the Acting Colonial Secretary, who is Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, fully explains the manner in which assistance has been given and the advantages of the scheme.

46. In conclusion it is pleasing to be able to record that at the time of writing this report the prospects of the coming sugar crop are very promising, and that the outlook generally is brighter than it has been for some time past.

S. W. KNAGGS,
Acting Governor.

Government House, Barbados,
25th August, 1903.

APPENDIX A.

REVENUE.

Head.	1901-2.	1902-3.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	104,971	92,529	—	12,442
Port and Harbour dues ...	3,480	2,743	—	737
Excise	27,337	24,280	—	3,057
Licences	4,458	4,056	—	402
Police tax	3,854	3,789	—	65
Fees and fines and fees of office.	6,268	5,564	—	704
Post Office	6,086	5,941	—	145
Water works	11,575	10,478	—	1,097
Other Heads of Service ...	11,943	10,172	—	1,771
Imperial Grant in Aid of Agriculture.	—	2,033	2,033	—
Total	179,972	161,585	2,033	20,420
Imperial Grant in Aid of Plantations.	—	80,000	80,000	—
Loan from Colonial Bank ...	—	7,000	7,000	—
Total	179,972	248,585	89,033	2[illegible]20

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	1901-2.	1902-3.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	6,717	6,343	—	374
Post Office	9,266	9,853	587	—
Legal Departments	12,073	11,790	—	283
Police	22,211	22,297	86	—
Ecclesiastical	10,915	10,952	37	—
Education	16,752	16,727	—	25
Medical Departments ...	16,487	34,117	17,630	—
Volunteer Force	158	652	494	—
Water Works	27,020	27,023	3	—
Pensions	6,485	7,823	1,338	—
Subsidies and Grants ...	8,992	10,864	1,872	—
Public Works Recurrent ...	3,257	3,184	—	73
Other Heads of Service ...	35,017	32,722	—	2,295
Total	175,350	194,347	22,047	3,050
Amount paid Colonial Bank on account of advances under the Plantations in Aid Act.	—	41,350	41,350	—
Total	175,350	235,877	63,577	3,050

APPENDIX B.

TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

—	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901-2.	1902-3.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	182,682	216,017	185,474	179,972	161,585
Expenditure ...	185,840	207,883	182,865	175,350	194,347
Surplus	—	8,134	2,609	4,622	—
Deficit	3,158	—	—	—	32,762

APPENDIX C.

COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS OF TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE BY VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Revenue.

Parish.	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	22,263	23,066	22,709	24,857	21,811
[illegible] Church ...	2,520	3,055	2,915	2,990	2,639
[illegible] Philip ...	3,669	3,507	3,386	3,734	3,934
St. George ...	1,860	2,308	2,304	2,722	2,562
St. John ...	2,183	2,260	2,183	2,238	2,244
St. Thomas ...	1,434	1,331	1,469	2,640	1,505
St. Joseph ...	1,421	1,472	1,364	1,506	1,356
St. Andrew ...	1,252	1,240	1,347	1,411	1,151
St. James ...	1,563	1,545	1,421	1,495	1,408
St. Lucy ...	1,663	1,453	1,487	2,016	2,011
St. Peter ...	1,876	1,671	1,962	1,968	1,951
Total ...	41,704	42,908	42,547	47,577	42,572

APPENDIX C.

Expenditure.

Parish.		1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
		£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael	...	16,750	18,321	19,713	22,021	20,407
Ch. Church	...	2,553	3,019	2,813	2,896	2,630
St. Philip	...	3,221	3,398	2,984	3,178	3,325
St. George	...	1,850	2,180	2,035	2,394	2,261
St. John	...	2,014	2,161	2,070	2,088	2,051
St. Thomas	...	1,395	1,445	1,519	2,648	1,490
St. Joseph	...	1,354	1,399	1,164	1,214	1,171
St. Andrew	...	1,195	1,141	1,239	1,311	1,122
St. James	...	1,446	1,536	1,387	1,439	1,405
St. Lucy	...	1,681	1,551	1,594	1,657	2,003
St. Peter	...	1,812	1,646	1,804	2,013	1,718
Total	...	35,271	37,797	38,322	42,859	39,583

APPENDIX D.

PAROCHIAL EXPENDITURE, 1902.

Parish.	Total amount of expenditure on Highways inclusive of Legislative Grant.	Sanitary.	Poor Relief.	Education of the Poor.	Miscellaneous, including repayment of Loans.	Maintenance of Churches and Chapels, &c.	Salaries.	Total Expenditure exclusive of Highways.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael	4,132	5,000	4,030	296	5,758	226	5,097	20,407
Christ Church	1,497	130	1,573	100	156	367	304	2,630
St. Philip ...	1,567	100	1,773	—	867	325	260	3,325
St. George...	1,330	84	1,261	101	172	360	285	2,261
St. John ...	809	62	1,305	134	92	238	221	2,052
St. Thomas	1,202	34	853	110	120	223	150	1,490
St. Joseph...	747	20	766	70	28	156	131	1,171
St Andrew	1,259	25	574	115	86	226	96	1,122
St. Peter ...	855	49	865	169	139	286	210	1,718
St. Lucy ...	704	9	497	167	456	49	825	2,003
St. James ...	989	24	808	87	72	253	161	1,405

APPENDIX E.

TOTAL VALUE OF THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR PAST FIVE YEARS.

—	1898.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	1,058,885	998,006	1,045,251	1,021,679	872,679
Exports	769,231	845,590	919,011	950,175	592,464
Total value of Trade.	1,828,116	1,843,596	1,964,262	1,971,854	1,465,143

APPENDIX F.

ARTICLES IMPORTED INTO BARBADOS AND RE-EXPORTED. COMPARING YEARS 1901 AND 1902.

Articles.	1901.	1902.	Increase.	Decrease.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Bacon and Hams	26,966	16,113	—	10,853
Beef salted or pickled	282,187	143,488	—	138,699
Bran and Pollard	55,511	39,183	—	16,328
Bread, Pilot, Navy and Crackers ...	42,310	66,100	23,790	—
Butter	43,136	33,109	—	10,027
Margarine, Oleomargarine, &c. ...	120,695	80,689	—	40,006
Cheese	4,994	1,198	—	3,796
Coffee	36,154	25,875	—	10,279
Copper and Brass	60,590	118,738	58,148	—
Corn or Maize	640,947	296,433	—	344,514
	qtls.	qtls.		qtls.
Fish, dried, salted or smoked ...	23,622	21,106	—	2,516
	brls.	brls.		brls.
Flour, Wheat or Rye	10,184	9,168	—	1,016
	lbs.	lbs.		lbs.
Grain, unenumerated	258,918	186,253	—	72,665
Hay and Straw	140,367	99,175	—	41,192
Iron Hoops, Bars and rods ...	112	11,200	11,088	—
Iron, Old	444,848	13,646	—	431,202
Lard	73,275	22,500	—	50,775
	hhds.	hhds.		hhds.
Liquors, Malt, Cider and Perry in wood.	286	223	—	63
	tons.	tons.		tons.
Manures	965	579	—	386
	lbs.	lbs.		
Oats	137,985	505,954	367,969	lbs.
Oilmeal and Oilcake	172,826	66,181	—	106,645
	glns.	glns.		glns.
Petroleum	34,839	18,555	—	16,284
	lbs.	lbs.		lbs.
Pork salted or pickled	134,615	77,774	—	56,841
Rice	3,731,691	849,731	—	2,881,960
Soap	969,887	578,152	—	391,735
Tobacco	32,183	10,360	—	21,823
	ft.	ft.	ft.	
Wood of all kinds	376,261	736,109	359,848	—

APPENDIX G.

TABLE SHOWING IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO BRITISH NORTH AMERICA FOR THE TEN YEARS 1893 TO 1902.

Years.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1893	119,221	127,713
1894	110,278	153,611
1895	80,471	95,848
1896	98,203	119,729
1897	108,835	86,159
1898	115,162	116,677
1899	79,243	110,865
1900	77,843	146,689
1901	80,434	135,765
1902	81,186	122,273

APPENDIX H.

Comparative Shipping Return for the Years 1901 *and* 1902 (*Vessels Entered and Cleared*).

Description.	1901.				1902.				Increase.				Decrease.			
	Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Steamers	746	85	1,236,982	97,668	724	32	1,246,487	47,440	—	—	9,505	—	22	53	—	50,228
Sailing Vessels ...	1,181	151	89,857	51,659	876	113	79,607	45,801	—	—	—	—	305	38	1,025	5,858
Total	1,927	236	1,326,839	149,327	1,600	145	1,326,094	93,241	—	—	9,505	—	327	91	1,025	56,036

Comparative Statement of Total Shipping Entered and Cleared from 1898 *to* 1902.

—	1898.		1899.		1900.		1901.		1902.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
Total entered and cleared ...	2,258	1,320,014	2,056	1,265,417	2,199	1,361,466	2,163	1,476,166	1,745	1,419,339

Analysis of Shipping Entered and Cleared 1901 *and* 1902.

Nationality.	1901.		1902.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	1,927	1,326,839	1,600	1,326,094	—	—	327	745
American	75	41,959	52	25,742	—	—	23	16,217
Dutch	44	8,944	29	4,843	—	—	15	4,101
Danish...	4	804	2	4,398	—	3,594	2	—
French	24	2,460	4	842	—	—	20	1,618
Italian	2	1,148	8	9,290	6	8,142	—	—
Venezuelan	8	510	2	222	—	—	6	288
Russian	9	3,119	5	1,493	—	—	4	1,626
Swedish	—	—	2	460	2	460	—	—
Norwegian	34	38,453	23	19,631	—	—	11	18,822
German	28	40,252	6	9,702	—	—	22	30,550
Austrian	2	1,066	4	2,644	2	1,578	—	—
Belgian	4	10,284	6	13,590	2	3,306	—	—
Portuguese	2	328	2	384	—	56	—	—
Totals	2,163	1,476,166	1,745	1,419,335	12	17,136	430	73,967

APPENDIX I.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES CROPS AND THEIR VALUES (PACKAGE INCLUDED) FROM 1893-1903.

Year.	Articles.	Quantity and Value.					Total Value.	
		Hhds.		£	s.	d.	£	£
1893 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	63,517	at	12	10	0	793,962	1,018,494
	„ Dry	3,640	„	17	0	0	61,880	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	43,374	„	3	15	0	162,652	
		Hhds.						
1894 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	63,215	„	9	5	0	584,739	767,436
	„ Dry	3,047	„	13	10	0	41,134	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	43,558	„	3	5	0	141,563	
		Hhds.						
1895 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	34,792	„	7	10	0	260,940	379,948
	„ Dry	1,659	„	12	15	0	21,152	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	27,959	„	3	10	0	97,856	
		Hhds.						
1896 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	45,789	„	8	10	0	389,206	558,159
	„ Dry	3,610	„	13	0	0	46,930	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	36,607	„	3	6	8	122,023	
		Hhds.						
1897 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	56,397	„	7	10	0	422,977	533,524
	„ Dry	2,203	„	11	2	0	24,453	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	37,432	„	2	6	0	86,094	
		Hhds						
1898 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	52,009	„	8	0	0	416,072	527,280
	„ Dry	1,566	„	12	0	0	18,792	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	34,123	„	2	14	2	92,416	
		Hhds.						
1899 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	43,907	„	10	0	0	439,070	583,002
	„ Dry	2,312	„	15	0	0	34,680	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	29,134	„	3	15	0	109,252	
		Hhds.						
1900 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	48,583	„	10	0	0	485,730	658,642
	„ Dry	1,998	„	12	0	0	23,976	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	37,234	„	4	0	0	148,936	
		Hhds.						
1901 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	61,074	„	8	10	0	519,129	708,277
	„ Dry	3,936	„	11	10	0	45,264	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	46,043	„	3	2	6	143,884	
		Hhds.						
1902 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	50,406	„	5	15	0	289,834	421,329
	„ Dry	1,681	„	7	0	0	11,767	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	42,760	„	2	16	0	119,728	
		Hhds.						
1903 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	33,000	„	6	9	2	213,125	337,654
	„ Dry	2,000	„	7	16	8	15,666	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	27,500	„	3	19	2	108,854	

APPENDIX J.

REPORT BY THE ACTING COLONIAL SECRETARY ON THE APPLICATION OF THE IMPERIAL GRANT OF £80,000.

On the opening of the sugar and molasses market in February at \$1·45 per 100 lbs. and \$5·00 for the package, and 10 cents per gallon and \$4·00 for the package, a feeling which was almost one of consternation seemed to take hold of the community.

2. The merchants who for years past had been carrying on, roughly speaking, about one half of the sugar plantations in the Island by advances under the Agricultural Aids Act, 1887, held a meeting and on the 20th February published the following Circular Letter to the Press, which was unanimously signed by all of them :—

" Dear Sir,"

" As it is generally admitted that the sugar industry of the Island is " threatened with extinction, which, from the present condition seems highly " probable, we find, as advancers to plantations, our interest to a considerable " extent will be imperilled, and unless a marked improvement in the outlook " takes place, we have reluctantly come to the conclusion that it will be " impossible for us to continue to make advances under 'the Agricultural " Aids Act, 1887,' or otherwise, after the present crop is reaped. You will " doubtless appreciate our action in giving you this early notice."

We are, &c.,

L. Bert, per C. W. Haynes, Attorney.
J. R. Bancroft & Co.
R. & G. Challenor.
Collymore & Wright.
W. L. Johnson & Co., Ltd.
Jas. A. Lynch & Co.
Samuel Manning.
S. P. Musson, Son & Co.
H. E. Thorne & Son, Ltd.
Wilkinson & Gaviller.

Bridgetown,
20th February 1902."

3. Some questions as to whether plantations in Chancery were intended to be covered by this announcement having been mooted, on the 7th March the same merchants, with one exception, published another letter in which the following passage occurred :—

" We desire through the medium of your papers, to reiterate our intention " —and to draw the attention of those interested to the fact—that, unless " there is a marked improvement in the prices now ruling for both sugar and " molasses, we shall not continue to make advances after the present crop is " reaped (either under the Agricultural Aids Act or otherwise) to owners " of estates or to Receivers in Chancery, unless they can lodge with us " approved security other than that provided for under the above Act."

4. A petition from six of the eleven vestries was forwarded to the Executive calling attention to the fact that it was highly probable that many sugar plantations would go out of cultivation and that the vestries therefore would be unable to collect the taxes necessary to meet the expenditure on poor relief which the very fact of abandonment of cultivation would necessarily greatly increase.

5. Meetings of the planters were also held, a deputation waited on the Governor to point out the serious aspect of public affairs and a monster petition for assistance to the Imperial Government which it was proposed should be signed by all classes of the community was dropped only because of the fear of bringing too clearly before the eyes of the labouring population the impending hardships of obtaining a livelihood. In March, 1902, the

state of affairs was most fully and ably put before the Secretary of State by Sir Frederic Hodgson who pointed out that if a material number of estates ceased cultivation the existing poor relief arrangements must break down. The Governor pointed out that if the merchants were unable to continue to make advances it would be better for the Government to step into the breach and temporarily take their places than to ultimately have to find money for distribution in the shape of doles to large numbers of the unemployed labourers, and he asked the Secretary of State to urge the Imperial Government to provide funds to the extent of £275,000 charged against the assets and revenues of the Colony for the purpose of making loans to plantations, such loans being secured against the corpus of plantations in priority to all existing liabilities and being repayable in five years.

6. In reply the Secretary of State stated that His Majesty's Government were unable to consent to an imperial loan for the purposes and on the terms mentioned by the Governor, but had decided to ask Parliament to grant a sum of £250,000 to the sugar growing Colonies in the West Indies of which it was proposed to allot £80,000 to Barbados.

7. This sum of £80,000 was considered to be totally inadequate to carry on the existing sugar cultivation in the Colony until the 31st August, 1903, and it therefore became incumbent on the Government to devise some scheme whereby the requisite amount of money should be raised. An interview with the local authorities of the Colonial Bank resulted in a promise by them to lend £200,000 at 5 per cent. on the security of the £80,000 and the general revenues and assets of the Colony, and upon this being settled the Plantations in Aids Bill, 1902, was framed and submitted to the Legislature.

8. This Bill, with regard to the conditions and forms to be observed by borrowers, followed the Agricultural Aids Act, 1887, and with regard to the modes of recovery of loans, followed the Hurricane Loan Act, 1899.

9. The most important innovations were (1) that a lien against the corpus of a plantation was given for a loan to an owner, in this respect the owner being placed in the same position as a receiver under the Agricultural Aids Act, 1887, and (2) a Board of five commissioners was constituted with duties somewhat analogous to those of the Master in Chancery to supervise and check, in the interests of mortgagees, the expenditure of the money loaned. Loans were to be repaid in five equal annual instalments, the first being payable on the 1st August, 1904, and the existing rights of all advancers under the Agricultural Aids Act, 1887, were fully recognised and respected.

10. Very shortly after its passage through the Legislature the Plantations in Aid Act was in full swing and was recognised as a measure likely to meet the purposes for which it is passed. That the scheme for dealing with the £80,000 has been a success is evidenced by the recent continuation of the Plantations in Aid Act for another year.

W. K. CHANDLER.

Acting Colonial Secretary.

24th August, 1903.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
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1903.

No. 432.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1903-4.

(For Report for 1902-3, *see* No. 398.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1904.

LONDON:
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No. 432.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1902–3, *see* No. 398.)

GOVERNOR SIR F. M. HODGSON to MR LYTTELTON.

Government House,
13th July, 1904.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to advise the transmission by book post of six copies of the Blue Book of the Colony together with the Report of the Colonial Secretary thereon for the year 1903-4.

I have, &c.,
F. M. HODGSON.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR 1903-4.

I.—FINANCIAL.

1. The financial year 1903-4 opened inauspiciously with a Treasury deficit of £4,185. The epidemic of small-pox, the prolonged period of quarantine and its attendant ills, the short sugar crop, and the low price of sugar, had all combined to injuriously affect the prosperity of the Colony and to impair the resources of the people.

2. The deficit was met, and funds provided for immediate needs, by a loan of £7,000 from the Colonial Bank; but as the year proceeded it became evident that the strain upon the finances of the Colony had been too severe to admit, even when the causes were removed, of an immediate recovery, and it accordingly became necessary, notwithstanding the exercise of a most rigid control over the expenditure, to effect in September a further loan of £3,500. Happily, towards the end of 1903, the brighter prospects of the sugar crop of 1904 began to be felt, and before the close of the financial year under review the debt of £10,500 had been reduced to £4,500, with a balance in the Treasury standing at £4,836. As, however, there were outstanding claims against this balance amounting to £2,697, the financial position at the close of the year 1903-4 presented a deficit of £2,361.

3. The revenue proper of the financial year was £180,831, being £8,345 less than anticipated, but £19,246 in excess of the revenue of the year 1902-3. Customs (£15,000) and excise (£3,000) were the principal items in which increases occurred, but the year 1902-3 was one of such abnormal depression that it is hardly possible to make any useful deductions from these figures.

4. The ordinary recurrent expenditure of 1903-4 was £176,309, less by £5,533 than the estimate, and £18,037 under the expenditure of the previous year; this reduction being chiefly due to the decreased expenditure under the head of "Medical" (£16,448).

5. The revenue and expenditure of the last five years has been:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1899	176,022	177,255
1900	185,475	176,982
1901–2	179,973	175,350
1902–3	161,585	194,346
1903–4	180,831	176,309

From these figures are excluded the grant of £40,000 made to the Colony by the Imperial Government in 1899 to meet the expenses caused by the hurricane of 1898; the further grant of £80,000 in 1902 in aid of the sugar industry; and the temporary loan of £10,500 from the Colonial Bank previously referred to.

6. The only changes in taxation during the year were the reduction of the duty on imported sugar from 12*s.* to 2*s.* the 100 lbs., and the removal of all duties from machinery imported for use in the preparation of cotton and cotton seed. The former change was made to meet the requirements of the Brussels Convention; the latter to encourage the development of the cotton industry. It was found necessary to continue the higher rates of customs and excise duties which were each increased by 20 per cent. in October, 1902. Under this increase the customs *ad valorem* duty is 12 per cent., and the excise duty on rum 3*s.* a gallon.

7. Ignoring the public debt of the Colony, the liabilities are found to exceed the assets by £766, the deficit being due to the temporary loans previously referred to. The public debt amounted to £425,600, against which there were sinking fund accumulations to the extent of £57,978. Of this debt £375,000 was incurred for water supply, and £50,600 for various public buildings and other works.

8. The aggregate revenue of the vestries amounted during the year to £43,489, + £14,143 appropriated for the Road Commissioners, making a total of £57,632. The second sum was made up of highway taxes amounting to £8,693, and the Legislative Grant of £5,450 from the Colonial Treasury. The expenditure was £54,476. There were 1,698 voters on the lists of electors registered under one or other of the following qualifications:—

(1) Any freehold estate in his own life or the life of another, or in right of marriage or the dower of his wife or any larger estate of the yearly value of not less than £5.

(2) Rents or profits arising out of land in his own right or in the right of his wife of the amount of £5 per annum.

(3) Occupancy of any land or building assessed parochially at the annual value of £15.

(4) Parochial Taxes.—The payment of in the City of Bridgetown £2, and in the rural part of St. Michael's Parish and other parishes £1.

(5) Salary.—Any agricultural attorney, manager, bookkeeper, clerk, agent, or upper servant in receipt of a salary of £4 3*s.* 4*d.* per month.

(6) Income.—The receipt of an annual income of £50 derived from any pension, occupation, office, or trade, other than that of a servant.

(7) Income.—The receipt of £15, charged on real estate, or being the interest on money invested in real securities or being dividends derived from debentures or shares in any company.

(8) Any barrister, solicitor, physician, surgeon, B.A., or M.A., of any University in Great Britain and Ireland, or any one having the "testamur" of Codrington College.

(9) Any *bonâ-fide* lodger in a house rated at not less than £50 per annum, who pays £15 for his lodgings.

9. The combined revenues of the Government and the parishes, excluding from the latter the contribution of £5,450 from the Colonial Treasury for road purposes, amounted to £233,013, representing a sum of £1 3*s.* 5*d.* per head of the population.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

10. The value of the imports of the year 1903 was £821,618, a decrease of £51,061 on the figures of 1902. The items on which decreases chiefly occurred were:—

Article.	Value.
	£
Bran and Pollard	419
Bread and Crackers	4,987
Butter and Oleomargarine	4 687
Coffee	1,376
Corn and Grain (including Oats)	3,083
Drugs and Chemicals	3,557
Fish, salted	14,511
Flour, Wheat, and Rye	1,981
Hardware	6,426
Liquors	2,509
Oil (except Whale and Petroleum)	1,041
Rice	30,707
Soap	441
Tobacco	104
Lumber	11,360
Staves	94

There were larger importations under the following heads:—

Article.	Value.
	£
Animals, living	1,798
Coal	1,725
Cornmeal	1,541
Cotton, Linen, Silk, and Woollen Goods	8,429
Leather, manufactured and unmanufactured	1,974
Machinery	1,758
Manures and Fertilizers	2,837
Meat, salted and dried	13,293
Oilmeal and Oilcake	112

11. The large falling off in the imports was due to the depression previously referred to, which tended very considerably to diminish the purchasing powers of the people. The decrease in the supply of foodstuffs was probably also due to some extent to the plentiful crops of vegetables grown during the year.

12. The countries of origin of the imports are given below:—

Countries.	1902.	1903.
	£	£
United Kingdom	381,447	362,250
United States of America	283,675	291,459
British North America	81,187	78,177
British West Indies	47,516	43,192
East Indies	15,898	—
British Guiana	26,580	28,355
Foreign West Indies	9,677	9,334
Chili	6,825	—
Uruguay	985	—
Other places	18,889	8,851
Total	872,679	821,618

13. The principal imports from the United States of America were:—

Article.	Value.
	£
Bacon and Hams	1,547
Beef and Pork (salted and pickled)	41,961
Bran and Pollard	5,400
Bread and Crackers	14,299
Butter	674

Principal Imports from the United States—cont.

Article.	Value.
	£
Oleomargarine	3,869
Corn and Maize	5,900
Cornmeal	18,183
Fish (salted)	15,620
Flour, Wheat and Rye	44,286
Grain, unenumerated	7,167
Lard and Compounds	5,023
Oats	11,857
Oilmeal and Oilcake	9,300
Wood and Staves	18,940

14. The exports of the year 1903 were valued at £552,891, being £39,574 less than those of 1902. Consequent upon the small yield of the sugar crop, estimated at 35,000 tons, the value of the exports, representing the produce and manufactures of the Colony, fell from £445,582 to £419,840, a loss of £25,742 which was made up as under:—

—	Exports.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1902.	1903.		
	£	£	£	£
Sugar	301,602	259,746	—	41,856
Molasses	119,728	136,548	16,820	—
Rum	64	90	26	—
Other Products ...	24,188	23,456	—	732
Total	445,582	419,840	16,846	42,588

15. The chief articles of export were:—

Article.	Value.
	£
Sugar	259,746
Molasses	136,548
Fruit and Vegetables	7,099
Manjak	6,508
Lime (building)	1,562
Animals (living)	1,273
Aerated Mineral Waters	970
Tamarinds	866
Hides	569
Other minor products	4,699
Total	419,840

And these were sent to the following countries:—

Country.	Value.
	£
United Kingdom	13,372
United States of America	252,314
British North America	135,339
British West Indies	10,829
British Guiana	5,321
Other Countries	2,665
Total	419,840

16. The following returns of the imports and exports of the final year in each of the last five decades may be of interest:—

Imports.

Year.	Value of total Imports.	From United Kingdom.	United States.	British North America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1863	878,209	304,175	293,106	41,293	239,635
1873	1,193,815	365,190	485,276	78,211	265,138
1883	1,155,342	458,946	451,724	90,159	154,513
1893	1,372,537	583,087	501,620	119,222	168,608
1903	821,618	362,250	291,459	78,177	89,732

Exports.

Year.	Value of total Exports.	United Kingdom.	United States.	British North America.	Other Countries.
	£	£	£	£	£
1863	981,142	629,256	69,205	23,477	259,204
1873	1,024,084	471,176	125,640	67,740	359,528
1883	1,141,133	440,784	407,491	109,567	183,291
1893	1,243,083	141,943	755,465	127,714	217,961
1903	552,891	26,672	254,669	135,456	136,094

Excise.

17. 163,103 gallons of rum (less than a gallon per head of the population) were duty paid in 1903, giving a revenue of

£24,465. This, notwithstanding the increase in the duty from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* a gallon, was less than the average receipts of the preceding ten years by £4,343. Indeed, as the following figures will show, the revenue from this source has gradually declined in spite of the increases from time to time in the duty:—

Year.	Revenue.	Duty.
	£	Per gallon. *s.* *d.*
1893	32,553	1 10
1894	29,422	1 10
1895	25,666	1 10
1896	27,461	1 10 2 6 from June, 1896.
1897	32,226	2 6
1898	32,420	2 6
1899	29,548	2 6
1900	26,959	2 6
1901–2	27,546	2 6
1902–3	24,280	2 6 3 0 from October, 1902.

18. The revenue from the licenses to retailers tells the same tale:—

Year.	Number of Licenses.	Revenue.
		£
1895	498	5,375
1896	465	5,000
1897	451	4,855
1898	432	4,705
1899	448	4,850
1900	382	4,190
1901	367	4,010
1902	361	4,010
1903	326	3,610

19. There is no reason to believe that these decreases in the revenue are due to any evasion of the duties. Although, apart from the checks exercised by the police, there is no very elaborate system of excise supervision here, it would be impossible in such a dense population for any systematic evasion of the law long to escape detection, and the only conclusion possible is that a sober people are increasing their habits of sobriety, and that any increase in the excise duty would only tend to

further diminish the receipts. This, at any rate, is the judgment of those who should be best able to form an opinion on the subject. The former export trade in rum has almost entirely vanished; the amount exported in 1903 having been 2,406 gallons which includes the quantity shipped as "ship's stores."

20. The valuable report of Mr. J. Steele, C.B., formerly of the English Inland Revenue Department, on the excise precautions in force in Barbados was received during the year. The adoption, as the circumstances of the Colony permit, of the several recommendations made in this report cannot fail to materially increase the efficiency of this branch of the Administration.

Minerals.

21. The only mineral product of any importance exported from Barbados is manjak, a very pure variety of land asphaltum, which is valued at £10 a ton. The quantity exported during the last seven years has been:—

Year.	Tons.
1897	1,880
1898	1,160
1899	1,026
1900	1,120
1901	1,043
1902	868
1903	650

More than one-half of the exports of last year went to the United States.

22. Manjak is a form of petroleum which is found here also in its gaseous and liquid forms. The West Indian Petroleum Company have incurred considerable expense in boring for the oil, with results that give fair promise of success, but it will apparently necessitate a further large expenditure of capital to fully develop the undertaking. During the last session of the Legislature the company introduced a bill applying for the monopoly of exporting the oil in bulk, but there seemed to be some likelihood of opposition to it, and the measure was not proceeded with. The company has established some refining works in connection with their other operations.

Agriculture.

23. The usual measures to promote agricultural education, and the experimental work for improving the cultivation of the

sugar cane, which forms the subject of separate annual reports by the Imperial Department of Agriculture, were continued by that department at a cost of £1,902 to the Imperial Government. But in addition to this work very active measures were taken by the department, with the co-operation of the Colonial Government, to promote the introduction of the cotton industry, and to establish a trade in bananas with the United Kingdom. Already some 300 bales of cotton have been shipped to England as the result of the first year's crop, and the favourable prices obtained for it encourage the hope that cotton may become permanently established as a useful subsidiary industry of the Colony. It is expected that next season the crop will be increased to 1,200 bales. The introduction of this industry has been very considerably assisted by the gift of six gins and other substantial aid from the British Cotton Growing Association.

24. The steps that have been taken by the Department of Agriculture have gone to prove that the growth of bananas for shipment to England can be safely embarked upon as a profitable industry. It is estimated that there are some 5,000 acres of land in Barbados suitable for their cultivation, and the prices obtained for the fruit after meeting all charges have been very encouraging.

25. Another industry which has been fostered by the Imperial Department of Agriculture is the curing for export of flying fish, albacore, and the various other fish which abound in these waters. The experiments made have gone to show that the fish, both pickled and drysalted, can be exported and sold at a fair profit in the neighbouring colonies, and there is no reason to doubt that it will also find a sale here at times when the fresh fish is not obtainable.

Shipping.

26. Details of the shipping returns are given in Appendices I and J. The number and tonnage of the ships entered during the year were:—

—	Number.	Tonnage.
Steamers	369	643,000
Sailing Vessels ...	543	51,831
Total... ...	912	694,831

This was less by 3,231 tons than the tonnage of 1902; the diminution being due to the small sugar crop.

27. The nationality of these vessels is given in the following return, which shows that over 90 per cent. of the trade is carried in British ships:—

Shipping Returns.

Nationality.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British ...	336	598,850	494	37,861	830	636,711
American ...	1	645	8	3,259	9	3,904
German ...	1	1,822	—	—	1	1,822
Norwegian	15	16,050	4	2,586	19	18,636
Belgian ...	1	1,653	—	—	1	1,653
Dutch ...	—	—	24	1,757	24	1,757
Danish ...	1	1,552	2	397	3	1,949
Russian ...	—	—	4	1,395	4	1,395
Italian ...	14	22,428	4	3,728	18	26,156
French ...	—	—	2	488	2	488
Austrian ...	—	—	1	360	1	360
Totals ...	369	643,000	543	51,831	912	694,831

28. The growth of the shipping business in the last 50 years is shown by the annexed return:—

Shipping Entered.

—	Total Tonnage.	British.	United States.	Other Countries.
1863...	124,073	98,251	22,589	3,233
1873...	153,400	110,620	31,101	11,679
1883...	355,396	297,860	33,309	24,227
1893...	612,319	550,854	33,246	28,219
1903...	694,831	636,711	3,904	54,216

III.—LEGISLATION.

29. Forty-two Acts were passed by the Legislature during the session 1903-4. Among these were:—

1903—40. An Act to reduce the duty of customs on imported sugar.

By this Act the duty was reduced from 12*s.* to 2*s.* the 100 lbs. to meet the requirements of the Brussels Convention.

1903—50. An Act to amend the Reformatory and Industrial Schools Act, 1890.

Power is given by this Act to the Government to apprentice boys for service on a British ship. Up to the present three boys have been so apprenticed under this Act, and the experiment promises to be a success.

1903—51. An Act to exempt from the payment of duty all machinery required for the preparation of cotton and cotton seed.

1903—52. An Act to further amend the Trade Act, 1891.

This Act, which was passed for the better prevention of smuggling, requires all vessels before entering the Mole Head Harbour to give the Harbour Master a declaration of all spirits and tobacco on board, and also requires all agents of steamers to give to the Comptroller of Customs within 24 hours of arrival a manifest of all goods landed here from any steamer.

1903—58. An Act to prohibit the importation of bounty-fed sugar.

1904—6. An Act to encourage the destroying of mongoose.

This provides for the payment from the Treasury of a sum of threepence for the head of a mongoose.

1904—12. An Act relating to the ultimate disposition of the Imperial Free Grant of £80,000.

This Act vests the grant, which is at present being utilised in connection with the plantations-in-aid scheme, in the Governor in Executive Committee to be ultimately applied, with the approval of the Legislature, in such manner as will best promote the collective and permanent interest of the sugar industry of the Island.

1904—13. An Act to extend the provisions of the Plantations-in-Aid Act, 1902, for a further limited period.

This extends the operations of the plantations-in-aid scheme to the 31st of August, 1905.

1904—19. An Act to prevent the introduction and spread of leprosy.

This prohibits a leper from engaging in certain trades which might be injurious to public health, and prevents any leper, unless he is a native or lawfully domiciled here, or unless he can furnish ample security, from landing in the Colony.

IV.—EDUCATION.

30. The expenditure on education during the year 1903-4 was £17,669. There are 10 colleges and higher-grade schools with 597 scholars, and 167 primary schools with 24,868 scholars.

The principal colleges and schools are:—

—	Government Grant.	Number of Scholars.
	£	
Codrington College	Nil	15
Harrison College	1,000	138
The Lodge School	500	50
The Combermere School	300	180
Queen's College (Girls)	400	117

The primary schools are as under:—

—	Number.	Average attendance.	Government Grant.
			£
Church of England	132	11,820	8,272
Wesleyan	19	1,790	1,284
Moravian	16	1,377	1,090
Total	167	14,987	10,646

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

31. The only Government institutions in this Colony are the prison, the lunatic asylum, the lazaretto, and a reformatory for boys. The General Hospital is under the control of a Board of Directors, and is subsidised by a Government grant of £6,630 a year. The average daily number of inmates was 201.

32. The particulars of the other institutions are:—

—	Number of inmates on 31st December, 1903.	Expenditure, 1903-4.
		£
Prison	390	5,313
Lunatic Asylum	362	5,191
Lazaretto	116	2,505
Reformatory	121	2,412

The poor relief system is in the hands of the Parochial Boards which spent last year the sum of £17,194 on the maintenance of almshouses and other methods of relief.

33. There were 13,936 depositors in the Savings Bank on the 31st March, 1904, with a sum of £217,209 standing to their credit. This shows an increase of £14,723 on the deposits of the previous year. An endeavour has been made for the first time to classify the depositors, with the result that they, increased at the present date to 14,212, are found to come under the following heads:—

Professional men	509
Public Officers	447
Planters	790
Merchants	214
Shopkeepers	446
Clerks	1,139
Teachers	257
Soldiers	45
Police Constables, &c.	249
Seamen	234
Seamstresses	674
Artizans	2,265
Domestics	2,009
Agricultural and other labourers ...	1,434
Hawkers	454
Friendly Societies, &c.	316
No occupation	1,762
Unenumerated	968
	14,212

There are 96 registered Friendly Societies in the Colony.

VI.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

34. During the year 1903 a total number of 16,479 offences were reported to the police, and 14,804 persons were apprehended and brought before the magistrates. These were dealt with as follows:—

Discharged for want of prosecution	1,246
Dismissed on the merits	3,000
Summarily convicted	10,416
Committed for trial in the Supreme Court	142
	14,804

The summary convictions were for the undermentioned offences:—

Offences against Revenue, Highway, and Health Acts	3,725
Offences against the person	3,577
Offences against property	1,498
Prædial larceny	955
Other offences	661
	10,416

35. The 138 cases tried in the Supreme Courts were disposed of as follows:—

—	No. of Cases.	Judgment for Crown.	Judgment for Prisoner.	Prisoner found Insane.	Cases Discharged.
Murder	1	—	—	1	—
Manslaughter ...	2	2	—	—	—
Concealment of birth	2	2	—	—	—
Rape	2	1	—	—	1
Unnatural Crimes ...	2	—	—	—	2
Other offences against the person.	35	26	5	—	4
Robbery with violence	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against property.	83	55	15	—	13
Miscellaneous offences	12	7	3	—	2
Total	140	94	23	1	22

36. The percentage of the total number of convictions (10,510) to the population is 5·29 per cent. This will seem high, but it is to be noted that over 70 per cent. of the sentences in the Magistrates' Courts were either for assaults and other offences against the person, or for offences against the Highway and Health Acts. These are forms of crime, if crime it can be called, inseparable from the condition of a somewhat excitable people crowded together in congested areas; eliminating these offences, the criminal rate is reduced to 1·61 per cent.

37. The number of persons convicted during the last ten years has been:—

Year.	Convictions.
1894	9,235
1895	9,974
1896	8,628
1897	9,103
1898	9,254
1899	11,060
1900	12,201
1901	11,946
1902	11,802
1903	10,510

38. It is gratifying to find that in a year of exceptional hardship to the people, and with crops growing in unenclosed fields, there was a decrease in the convictions for prædial larceny.

Year.	Convictions for prædial larceny.
1894	931
1895	1,772
1896	1,003
1897	950
1898	1,120
1899	1,367
1900	1,461
1901	1,298
1902	1,128
1903	955

39. There were 3,391 persons committed to prison under penal sentences during 1903 (1,576 men and 1,815 women), being 99 less than the average of the last six years. The ages of these were:—

Ages of Persons Committed to Prison under Penal Sentences during 1903.

Age.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 14	—	—	—
14 to 20	591	453	1,044
21 " 30	570	782	1,352
31 " 40	171	339	510
41 " 50	148	166	314
51 " 60	69	53	122
61 and upwards	27	22	49
Total	1,576	1,815	3,391

And the sentences imposed on them were:—

Sentence.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1 month and under	1,327	1,745	3,072
Over 1 month and not more than 3 months...	138	44	182
" 3 months " " 6 " ...	59	11	70
" 6 months " " 1 year ...	20	7	27
" 1 year " " 5 years ...	24	8	32
" 5 years	8	—	8
Total	1,576	1,815	3,391

40. Of the 3,391 committals, 2,063 had suffered former terms of imprisonment—951 males and 1,112 females. These had been previously convicted:—

—	Once.	Twice.	Thrice or more.
Males	285	179	487
Females	276	172	664
Total	561	351	1,151

The number of recommittals may seem excessive; but the figures must not be taken to imply the existence of a large criminal population. As has previously been shown, a considerable number of convictions were for offences of a comparatively trivial nature, carrying light sentences. It is confidently hoped that the introduction of rules for the treatment of juvenile-adults under the Borstal System, which have recently been adopted, may effect an improvement in this matter.

41. Fifty-two per cent. of the men committed and forty-six per cent. of the women could neither read nor write. The average daily cost of maintaining each prisoner was 7½*d.*

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

42. The population at the close of the year 1903 is estimated to have been 198,792—89,829 males and 108,963 females. The following figures show the estimated increase of the population since the last census in 1891:—

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Census 1891	81,105	101,201	182,306
Estimated 1903	89,829	108,963	198,792
Increase	8,724	7,762	16,486

43. With such a dense population, nearly 1,200 to the square mile, it is natural that the Government should have an ever present anxiety as to the provision to be made for them in times of hardship or distress, and it is a matter for regret that a recent attempt to introduce Barbadian labour into South Africa has failed to meet with the approval of the Transvaal Government. The average labourer of this Island is a hard-working and sober man, by instinct and training a loyal and law-abiding citizen, and had the proposed scheme of emigration been carried into effect, it could hardly have failed to result in benefit to both colonies.

44. The births in 1903 were 7,409 and the deaths were 3,929. Of the births 3,403 were legitimate and 4,006 illegitimate. The death-rate was 19·76 per 1,000, or eliminating the deaths of infants under one year, 11·07 per 1,000.

45. As this low death-rate will show the health of the Island was good, and there was no epidemic disease of any kind. The epidemic of small-pox, which had been gradually dwindling, came to an end on the 20th April, when the hospital at Pelican Island was finally closed. There were a few cases of diphtheria and dysentery reported, and several cases of typhoid fever occurred in the outlying districts. These latter were due probably in most instances to the careless drinking of impure water; the persons attacked having failed to take the trouble to fetch or send for pure water from the nearest Government standpipe (a supply of pure water is disseminated by the Government throughout the Colony, and is free to the people).

46. The rainfall of 1903 was 54·80 inches, about six inches under the average. The monthly average during the first five months of the year was 2·03 inches, and during the last seven months 6·38 inches. The wettest month was December, when 10·18 inches were recorded.

47. The rainfall, however, is not equally distributed over the whole Island. In the central districts, where the land rises to an elevation of about 1,000 feet, the fall in wet years will reach 120 inches; but in the lower districts on the seaboard it is very much less.

48. The temperature ranged from 65° to 89.2°, the mean averages having been 75.3° to 85°. The temperature usually averages from 68° to 82° in the cool season, which lasts from December to the end of May, and from 75° to 88° in the hot season.

49. The average velocity of the wind was 9.9 miles per hour. Providentially the Colony was not visited by any disturbance during the year, though the hurricane which devastated Jamaica in August passed about 100 miles to the north and caused some temporary disquietude.

VIII.—MILITARY EXPENDITURE.

50. The expenditure by the Imperial Government on the troops stationed in the Colony was £73,066. The Colony spent £709 on the upkeep of the Volunteer Force, which consists of 9 officers and 125 non-commissioned officers and men.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

51. The protracted epidemic of small-pox which during the years 1902, 1903 and 1904 visited successively Barbados, Trinidad, British Guiana, and some of the islands of the Windward group, opened the eyes of the West Indian Colonies generally to the very serious obstacles to intercourse and trade and the great injury to the commercial and shipping interests that resulted from the methods of quarantine that had hitherto been accepted as necessary and inevitable. Here, in Barbados, the measures adopted by some of the other colonies told so heavily on the resources of the Colony and of the people that the Governor appointed a local commission to consider how far these vexatious and in some cases apparently purposeless restrictions could be modified in the light of modern scientific knowledge of the subject. This commission reported in June,

1903, with the result that Barbados, acting on the finding of the commission, has since that date imposed far milder and less harassing precautions whenever it became necessary to resort to measures of quarantine. It is obvious, however, that in a group of colonies so closely connected and with so many mutual interests there is little to be gained by any independent action in such a matter, and the Secretary of State for the Colonies accordingly suggested a conference of West Indian delegates to consider the desirability of adopting some uniform method of procedure. This conference has recently finished its sittings in Barbados, and, with the assistance of Dr. Theodore Thomson of the Local Government Board, has formulated a scheme which it is hoped and believed will place matters on a more satisfactory footing.

52. The condition of the Colony's finances unfortunately rendered it impossible to propose any grant from the public chest towards the relief of the sufferers from the disastrous hurricane which visited Jamaica in August, 1903. A public meeting was, however, convened, and a Relief Committee appointed, with the result that a sum of £490 was collected in addition to considerable gifts of produce. This, in view of the straits from which Barbados herself was then suffering, must be regarded as a very substantial expression of her sympathy.

53. An interesting experiment is at the present time being made in the attempt to introduce the staple products of the Colony, sugar and rum, into the markets of West Africa. During his absence on leave in England last year, Sir Frederic Hodgson corresponded on the subject with two leading firms doing business with the Gold Coast, Messrs. F. & A. Swanzy and Messrs. Miller Brother & Co., Ltd., with the result that in April last trial shipments of the two products were made to their respective agencies at Cape Coast, Sekondi, and Accra. What the result of the experiment is likely to be cannot be anticipated, but should it prove to be successful it will open up an extensive market for these products. Mention must here be made of the assistance rendered to the scheme by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company and Messrs. Elder, Dempster & Co., who kindly agreed to convey the shipments to their destination free of charge.

54. Sir Frederic Hodgson also, during his absence on leave, obtained from Mr. Andrew Carnegie a generous gift of £4,800 for the erection of a Free Public Library in Bridgetown. The building is now in course of erection, and will, it is hoped, prove a handsome addition to the public buildings of the Colony. The Government Library, which contains as many as 24,000 volumes, will be transferred to it.

55. The provisions of the Plantations-in-Aid Acts, under which the grant of £80,000 made in 1902 by the Imperial Government in aid of the sugar industry is administered, have

been extended for another year, namely, until the 31st of August, 1905. The transactions under these acts are summarised below:—

Number of Act.	Amount of Loans.	Repayments.	Balances outstanding.
	£	£	£
1902–24	96,041	58,413	37,628
1903–33	150,671	115,422	35,249*
1904–13	6,275	—	—

* Repayments are still being made.

As a result of the small and unprofitable sugar crop of 1903, 88 estates were unable to repay the amounts lent to them which, as shown above, amounted in the aggregate to £37,628. These loans now rank as a first lien on the estate, and the debt is repayable in five equal annual instalments commencing on the 1st of August, 1904. The crop that has just been reaped has turned out to be such a good one that the proprietors will in all probability be able to repay in full the outstanding balance of £35,249, and the one-fifth of the previous debt. One hundred and eight estates, out of a total of 411, are now taking advantage of the provisions of the Act.

56. In conclusion it is gratifying to be able to report that the Colony appears to be gradually recovering from the depression resulting from its recent reverses. The sugar estates give promise of a good crop in 1905, the people are interesting themselves largely in the cotton and banana industries, and with the removal of the quarantine restrictions residents in the neighbouring colonies and the South American ports have been able to resume their visits to Barbados which justly enjoys a wide reputation as a health resort.

S. W. Knaggs,
Colonial Secretary.

Barbados,
3rd July, 1904

APPENDIX A.

REVENUE.

Head.	1902-3.	1903-4.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	92,529	107,610	15,081	—
Port and Harbour dues ...	2,743	3,322	579	—
Excise	24,280	27,288	3,008	—
Licences	4,056	4,207	151	—
Police tax	3,789	3,742	—	47
Fees and fines and fees of office.	5,564	6,014	450	—
Post Office	5,941	6,342	401	—
Water-works	10,478	10,452	—	26
Other Heads of Service ...	10,172	9,452	—	720
Imperial Grant in Aid of Agriculture.	2,033	2,402	369	—
	161,585	180,831	20,039	793
Loan from Colonial Bank ...	7,000	3,500	—	3,500
Interest on loan of £80,000	—	1,022	1,022	—
Imperial Free Grant in Aid of the Sugar Industry.	80,000	—	—	80,000
Total	248,585	185,353	21,061	84,293

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	1902-3.	1903-4.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	6,343	7,671	1,328	—
Post Office	9,853	9,037	—	816
Legal Departments	11,790	12,720	930	—
Police	22,297	22,027	—	270
Ecclesiastical	10,952	10,864	—	88
Education	16,727	16,488	—	239
Medical Departments ...	34,117	17,669	—	16,448
Volunteer Force	652	708	56	—
Water Works	27,023	25,845	—	1,178
Pensions	7,823	7,802	—	21
Subsidies and Grants ...	10,864	10,210	—	654
Public Works Recurrent ...	3,184	2,913	—	271
Other Heads of Service ...	32,722	32,037	—	685
	194,347	175,991	2,314	20,670
Repayment of loan to Colonial Bank and interest thereon.	—	6,318	6,318	—
Amount repaid to Colonial Bank on account of advances under the Plantations in Aid Act.	—	39,492	39,492	—
Total	194,347	221,801	48,124	20,670

APPENDIX B.

TOTAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

—	1899.	1900.	1901–2.	1902–3.	1903–4.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue ...	216,017	185,474	179,972	161,583	185,353
Expenditure ...	207,883	182,865	175,350	194,347	182,309
Surplus	8,134	2,609	4,622	—	3,044
Deficit	—	—	—	32,762	—

APPENDIX C.

COMPARATIVE REVENUE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	23,066	22,709	24,857	21,811	22,746
Christ Church ...	3,055	2,915	2,990	2,639	2,836
St. Philip ...	3,507	3,386	3,734	3,934	3,796
St. George ...	2,308	2,304	2,722	2,562	2,595
St. John ...	2,260	2,183	2,238	2,244	2,266
St. Thomas ...	1,331	1,469	2,640	1,505	1,520
St. Joseph ...	1,472	1,364	1,506	1,356	1,376
St. Andrew ...	1,240	1,347	1,411	1,151	1,147
St. James ...	1,545	1,421	1,495	1,408	1,431
St. Lucy ...	1,453	1,487	2,016	2,011	1,883
St. Peter ...	1,671	1,962	1,958	1,951	1,892
Total ...	42,908	42,547	47,577	42,572	43,489

APPENDIX D.

COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish.	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	18,321	19,713	22,021	20,407	20,797
Christ Church ...	3,019	2,813	2,896	2,630	2,542
St. Philip ...	3,398	2,984	3,178	3,325	3,363
St. George ...	2,180	2,035	2,394	2,261	2,606
St. John ...	2,161	2,070	2,088	2,051	2,119
St. Thomas ...	1,445	1,519	2,648	1,490	1,437
St. Joseph ...	1,399	1,164	1,214	1,171	1,329
St. Andrew ...	1,141	1,239	1,311	1,122	1,179
St. James ...	1,536	1,387	1,439	1,405	1,421
St. Lucy ...	1,551	1,594	1,657	2,003	1,909
St. Peter ...	1,646	1,804	2,013	1,718	1,632
Total ...	37,797	38,322	42,859	39,583	40,334

APPENDIX E.

PAROCHIAL EXPENDITURE, 1903-1904.

Parish.	Sanitary.	Poor Relief.	Education of the Poor.	Miscellaneous, including repayment of Loans.	Maintenance of Churches and Chapels, &c.	Salaries.	Total Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael	4,852	5,850	363	6,323	1,314	2,096	20,797
Christ Church	162	1,502	100	121	356	301	2,542
St. Philip	120	2,150	—	439	325	328	3,362
St. George	87	1,498	103	100	348	469	2,605
St. John	76	1,366	125	106	246	200	2,119
St. Thomas	31	873	106	112	165	150	1,437
St. Joseph	34	745	75	78°	237	130	1,329
St Andrew	22	648	115	96	195	103	1,180
St. Peter	55	842	176	34	323	202	1,632
St. Lucy	39	984	161	513	28	181	1,909
St. James	24	736	121	47	285	198	1,421

° Includes Annuities £32.

APPENDIX F

Total Value of the Imports and Exports for the past Five Years.

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	998.006	1,045,251	1,021,679	872,679	821,618
Exports	845,590	919,011	950,175	592,464	552,891
Total value of Trade.	**1,843,596**	**1,964,262**	**1,971,854**	**1,465,143**	**1,374,509**

APPENDIX G.

Articles imported into Barbados and re-exported, Comparing Years 1902 and 1903.

Articles.	1902.	1903.	Increase.	Decrease.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Arrowroot	161,222	278,030	116,808	—
Bacon and Hams	16,113	12,043	—	4,070
Beef salted or pickled	143,488	250,279	106,791	—
Bran and Pollard	39,183	64,557	25,374	—
Bread, Pilot, Navy and Crackers ...	66,100	39,426	—	26,674
Butter	33,109	17,352	—	15,757
Margarine, Oleomargarine, &c. ...	80,689	16,359	—	64,330
Cheese	1,198	1,953	—	45
Coffee	25,875	32,220	6,345	—
Copper and Brass	118,738	38,528	—	80,210
Corn or Maize	296,433	266,300	—	30,133
	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.
Fish, dried, salted or smoked ...	21,106	13,216	—	7,890
	brls.	brls.	brls.	brls.
Flour, Wheat or Rye	9,168	6,952	—	2,216
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Grain, unenumerated	186,253	169,516	—	16,737
Hay and Straw	99,175	157,148	57,973	—
Iron Hoops, Bars and rods ...	11,200	1,540	—	9,660
Iron, Old	13,646	494,032	480,386	—
Lard	22,500	32,800	10,300	—

APPENDIX G—*cont.*

Articles.	1902.	1903.	Increase.	Decrease.
Liquors, Malt, Cider and Perry in wood.	hhds. 223	hhds. 118	hhds. —	hhds. 105
Manures	tons. 579	tons. 196	tons. —	tons. 383
Oats	lbs. 505,954	lbs. 300,555	lbs. —	lbs. 205,399
Oilmeal and Oilcake	66,181	69,044	2,863	—
Petroleum	glns. 18,555	glns. 21,337	glns. 2,782	glns. —
Pork, salted or pickled	lbs. 77,774	lbs. 78,753	lbs. 979	lbs. —
Rice	849,731	4,537,753	3,688,022	—
Soap	578,152	407,558	—	170,594
Tobacco	10,360	31,452	20,092	—
Wood of all kinds	ft. 736,109	ft. 562,024	ft. —	ft. 174,085

APPENDIX H.

TABLE SHOWING IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO BRITISH NORTH AMERICA FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS 1894 TO 1903.

Years.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1894	110,278	153,611
1895	80,471	95,848
1896	98,203	119,729
1897	108,835	86,159
1898	115,162	116,667
1899	79,243	110,865
1900	77,843	146,689
1901	80,434	135,765
1902	81,186	122,273
1903	78,177	135,456

APPENDIX I.

COMPARATIVE SHIPPING RETURN FOR THE YEARS 1902 AND 1903 (VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED).

Description.	1902.				1903.				Increase.				Decrease.			
	Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Steamers ...	724	32	1,246,487	47,440	672	66	1,197,700	88,300	—	34	—	40,860	52	—	48,787	—
Sailing Vessels	876	113	79,607	45,801	985	95	75,902	26,501	109	—	3,705	—	—	18	—	19,300
Total ...	1,600	145	1,326,094	93,241	1,657	161	1,273,602	114,801	109	34	3,705	40,860	52	18	48,787	19,300

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TOTAL SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED FOR 1899 TO 1903.

—	1899.		1900.		1901.		1902.		1903.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
Total entered and cleared ...	2,056	1,265,417	2,199	1,361,466	2,163	1,476,166	1,745	1,419,339	1,818	1,388,403

APPENDIX J.

ANALYSIS OF SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED 1902 AND 1903.

Nationality.	1902.		1903.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	1,600	1,326,094	1,657	1,273,602	57	—	—	52,492
American	52	25,742	17	7,264	—	—	35	18,478
Dutch	29	4,843	48	3,514	19	—	—	1,329
Danish...	2	4,398	6	3,898	4	—	—	500
French	4	842	4	976	—	134	—	—
Italian	8	9,290	36	52,312	28	43,022	—	—
Venezuelan	2	222	—	—	—	—	2	222
Russian	5	1,493	7	2,531	2	1,038	—	—
Swedish	2	460	—	—	—	—	2	460
Norwegian	23	19,631	37	36,636	14	17,005	—	—
German	6	9,702	2	3,644	—	—	4	6,058
Austrian	4	2,644	2	720	—	—	2	1,924
Belgian	6	13,590	2	3,306	—	—	4	10,284
Portuguese	2	384	—	—	—	—	2	384
Totals	1,745	1,419,335	1,818	1,388,403	124	61,199	51	92,131

APPENDIX K.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES CROPS AND THEIR VALUES (PACKAGE INCLUDED) FROM 1893–1904.

Year.	Articles.	Quantity and Value.					Total Value.	
		Hhds.		£	s.	d.	£	£
1893 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	63,517	at	12	10	0	793,962	1,018,494
	„ Dry	3,640	„	17	0	0	61,880	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	43,374	„	3	15	0	162,652	
		Hhds.						
1894 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	63,215	„	9	5	0	584,739	767,436
	„ Dry	3,047	„	13	10	0	41,134	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	43,558	„	3	5	0	141,563	
		Hhds.						
1895 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	34,792	„	7	10	0	260,940	379,948
	„ Dry	1,659	„	12	15	0	21,152	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	27,959	„	3	10	0	97,856	
		Hhds.						
1896 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	45,789	„	8	10	0	389,206	558,159
	„ Dry	3,610	„	13	0	0	46,930	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	36,607	„	3	6	8	122,023	
		Hhds.						
1897 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	56,397	„	7	10	0	422,977	533,524
	„ Dry	2,203	„	11	2	0	24,453	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	37,432	„	2	6	0	86,094	
		Hhds						
1898 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	52,009	„	8	0	0	416,072	527,280
	„ Dry	1,566	„	12	0	0	18,792	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	34,123	„	2	14	2	92,416	
		Hhds.						
1899 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	43,907	„	10	0	0	439,070	583,002
	„ Dry	2,312	„	15	0	0	34,680	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	29,134	„	3	15	0	109,252	
		Hhds.						
1900 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	48,583	„	10	0	0	485,730	658,642
	„ Dry	1,998	„	12	0	0	23,976	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	37,234	„	4	0	0	148,936	

APPENDIX K—*cont.*

Year.	Articles.	Quantity and Value.				Total Value.	
		Hhds.	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	£
1901 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	61,074 at	8	10	0	519,129	708,277
	„ Dry	3,936 „	11	10	0	45,264	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	46,043 „	3	2	6	143,884	
		Hhds.					
1902 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	50,406 „	5	15	0	289,834	421,329
	„ Dry	1,681 „	7	0	0	11,767	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	42,760 „	2	16	0	119,728	
		Hhds.					
1903 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	35,170 „	6	12	0	232,122	396,294
	„ Dry	3,453 „	8	0	0	27,624	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	30,344 „	4	10	0	136,548	
	(Estimated.)	Hhds.					
1904 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	64,000 „	7	0	0	448,000	594,000
	„ Dry	4,000 „	9	0	0	36,000	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	40,000 „	2	15	0	110,000	

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following, among other, reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony.	Year.
411	St. Lucia	1902
412	Mauritius	"
413	British Guiana	1902–1903
414	Jamaica	"
—	Bahamas (Printed separately as [Cd. 1985]) ...	1902
415	Falkland Islands	1902–1903
416	Leeward Islands	"
417	British Honduras	1903
418	Bermuda	"
419	Weihaiwei	"
420	St. Helena	"
421	Hong Kong	"
422	Gibraltar	"
423	Sierra Leone	"
424	Gambia	"
425	Ceylon	"
426	Gold Coast	"
427	Lagos	"
428	Bahamas	1903–1904
429	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast ...	1903
430	Mauritius	"
431	Seychelles	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
15	Canada	Legal Status of British North American Indians.
16	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
17	Gilbert and Ellice Islands ...	Report for 1896–1900.
18	Hong Kong	Operations in new Territory during 1900.
19	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.
20	Weihaiwei	General Report.
21	Dominica	Report on Caribs.
22	Seychelles	Report on Para Rubber.
23	Dominica	Roads and Land Settlement.
24	Grenada	Land Settlement in Carriacou
25	Hong Kong	Bubonic Plague, 1903.
26	Northern Nigeria	Mineral and Vegetable Products.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies ...	Medical Reports.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 466.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1904-5.

(For Report for 1903-4, *see* No. 432.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

October, 1905.

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No. 466.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1903-4, *see* No. 432.)

ACTING-GOVERNOR KNAGGS to MR. LYTTELTON.

Government House,
Barbados,
4th September, 1905.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1904-5 and my report thereon.

I have, &c.,
S. W. KNAGGS.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR 1904-5.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue of the year 1904-5 was £185,056, and the expenditure £183,297.

2. The revenue fell short of the estimate by £1,819, but it was £4,225 in excess of that of the previous financial year, and £8,279 more than the average receipts of the last five years. Customs, excise, fees and fines, and water-works failed to produce the revenue that was expected from them when the estimates were framed, but the failure in each case was probably due rather to an over-estimate than to other causes. The receipts from customs and excise, the two heads of revenue which are most sensitive to any change in the material condition of the people, were in excess of the average of the preceding five years:—

—	Revenue, 1904–5.	Average for preceding five years.
	£	£
Customs	112,978	104,747
Excise	27,393	27,001

It was necessary to retain throughout the year the Revenue-in-Aid and the Rum Duty Acts, which were brought into operation in October, 1902, and have since been in force. Under these Acts the ordinary customs tariff is increased by 20 per cent., bringing the *ad valorem* duty up to 12 per cent., and the excise duty on rum is increased from 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* the gallon. These Acts have been renewed for the current financial year, and it seems hardly possible in the present condition and prospects of the Colony to entertain any hope of their early repeal.

3. The Treasury had on the 1st of April, 1904, a balance of £4,836, but against this there were outstanding liabilities amounting to £2,697 and a sum of £4,500 due to the Colonial Bank on account of the £10,500 borrowed to tide over the difficulties created by the small-pox epidemic of 1902-3. Practically, therefore, the year opened with a deficit of £2,361, but with the improvement shown by the revenue, and by a careful regulation of the expenditure, it was possible before its close to meet these liabilities and bring forward a balance on the 1st of April, 1905, of £6,595.

4. The expenditure, including the two payments above referred to, amounted to £183,297. The expenditure proper was, therefore, £176,100; £209 less than that of the previous year, and £3,948 less than the average expenditure of the five preceding years.

5. The revenue and expenditure of the last five years, excluding transactions connected with grants and loans, has been:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1900	185,475	176,982
1901–2	179,973	175,350
1902–3	161,585	194,346
1903–4	180,831	176,309
1904–5	185,056	178,797

6. Except an alteration in the method of assessing the fee payable by a licensed distiller, no change was made in the taxation during the year.

7. The public debt was increased during 1904 by the issue of debentures under the Public Works Loan Acts to the value of £1,400—the amount being spent in providing suitable Magistrates' Courts in Bridgetown. This issue of debentures completes the loan of £60,000 which is authorized by the Acts. It has been chiefly expended in repairs to the wharf walls, in the purchase of a dredger, in extending the prison and police barrack accommodation, and in the purchase of lands for the Boys' Industrial School, and of premises for the Custom House and Spirit Bond.

8. The public debt of the Colony now stands at £416,000 with a sinking fund of £52,056. Of this amount £375,000 represents the loan for water works, and £41,000 the unredeemed balance of the Public Works Loans.

9. The aggregate revenue of the eleven parishes, including the grant of £5,450 from the Colonial Treasury for road purposes, amounted to £58,476, and the expenditure to £55,138.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

10. The value of the imports of the year 1904 was £1,069,312, an increase of £247,695 on the imports of the previous year. This increase appears to have been fairly

generally distributed among the various articles of import, but larger increases are noticeable under the following headings:—

Article.	1903.	1904.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Animals, living	15,598	24,595	8,997
Bran and Pollard	5,405	7,618	2,213
Butter and Oleomargarine	14,481	21,744	7,263
Coal...	28,858	34,736	5,878
Corn and Grain, including Oats	27,331	34,964	7,633
Cornmeal	18,206	23,073	4,867
Cotton, Linen, Silk, and Woollen Goods	141,313	179,370	38,057
Drugs and Chemicals	6,866	9,239	2,373
Flour, Wheat or Rye	47,398	60,613	13,215
Hardware, including metal, new ...	24,080	29,808	5,728
Leather and Manufactures thereof, including Boots and Shoes.	17,950	19,736	1,786
Liquors	18,950	24,411	5,461
Machinery	8,184	11,214	3,030
Manures and Fertilizers	58,695	71,467	12,772
Meat, salted and cured	46,874	60,370	13,496
Oil, except Whale and Petroleum ...	12,552	15,660	2,108
Oilmeal and Oilcake	9,374	12,641	3,267
Rice	36,257	79,245	42,988
Soap	11,938	17,667	5,729
Lumber	19,293	25,991	6,698
Staves	25,411	36,524	11,113

Decreases are shown under the headings Bread (£4,611) and Salted Fish (£5,642), the first decrease being probably due to the operations of the local biscuit factory. The factory manufactures its biscuits in bond, paying a duty of one shilling a barrel on the biscuits which go into consumption locally, and the duty so paid in 1904 was £1,057 as against £326 in 1903.

11. The following table shows the country of origin of the articles imported:—

Country of origin.	Value.
United Kingdom	,819
United States of America ...	552,994
British North America ...	75,749
British West Indies	57,843
British Guiana	32,295
Foreign West Indies	13,685
Chili	12,799
Other places	44,128
Total	1,069,312

from which it will be seen that 45 per cent. of the imports came from the United Kingdom, 33 per cent. from the United States of America, and 7 per cent. from British North America.

12. The values of the articles imported from British North America and from the United States of America respectively are shown below:—

Articles.	Value.	
	From British North America.	From United States.
	£	£
Bacon and Hams	107	3,141
Beef and Pork (salted or pickled) ...	1,838	49,888
Bran and Pollard	1	7,541
Bread and Crackers	7	10,301
Butter	1,316	2,720
Oleomargarine	—	5,001
Corn or Maize (unground)	—	8,345
Cornmeal	—	22,967
Fish (salted)	15,959	13,332
Flour, Wheat or Rye	2,513	57,337
Grain, unenumerated	511	8,121
Lard and Compounds	—	9,417
Oats	46	17,048
Oilmeal and Oilcake	—	12,638
Wood, White Pine and Pitch Pine ...	15,367	9,830
Shingles	7,394	2,060
Staves	8,837	26,517
Other articles	21,853	86,790
Total	75,749	352,994

13. The value of the exports was £627,678, showing an increase of £207,838 on the exports of 1903. This increase was distributed under the following heads:—

Article.	Increase.
	£
Sugar	180,462
Molasses	7,647
Rum	58
Other products	19,671
Total	207,838

The total exports of sugar, molasses, and rum were:—

—	Quantity.	Value.
	Hhds.	£
Sugar, Dry	2,525	24,871
,, Muscovado	61,079	415,337
	Puns.	
Molasses	45,061	144,195
	Glns.	
Rum	1,979	148
Total Value	—	584,551

The other articles exported, valued at £43,127, were:—

Article.	Value.
	£
Aerated Mineral Waters	703
Animals, Living	1,916
Art, Works of	14
Chemical Manufactures	41
Fruit and Vegetables, Fresh	7,804
Hides, Raw	1,905
Ice	132
Lime, Building and Temper	1,331
Manjak	5,012
Oil, Whale	20
Plants	266
Tamarinds	471
Other minor Products, Unenumerated ...	23,512
Total Value	43,127

14. The export trade was carried on with the undermentioned countries:—

Country.	Amount.
	£
United Kingdom	59,034
United States of America	285,212
British North America	249,000
British West Indies	18,380
British Guiana	6,598
French Guiana	2,102
Foreign West Indies	971
Bermuda	429
Dutch Guiana	134
Madeira	5,818
Total	627,678

The sugar and molasses, the principal articles of export, went to the following countries:—

Countries.	Sugar.	Molasses.	Total.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	37,248	4,797	42,045
British North America	133,146	115,738	248,884
Other British Colonies	4,789	678	5,467
United States of America	264,610	17,078	281,688
Other Countries	415	5,964	6,379
Total	440,208	144,255	584,463

The export of manjak decreased during 1904, only 501 tons, valued at £5,012, having been shipped. Three-fifths of this went to the United States.

15. The transit trade showed an increase in value over that of the previous year of £100,304. It comprised the following articles:—

—	Value.
	£
Animals, living	6,396
Bullion, raw gold	24,879
Butter and oleomargarine	5,415
Cotton, linen, silk and woollen goods	31,530
Fish, salted	16,148
Flour, wheat or rye	38,327
Liquors	10,761
Manures	2,496
Meat, salted and cured	19,742
Rice	19,964
Soap	5,568
Other articles	52,078
Total	233,304

Shipping.

16. The number and tonnage of the ships entered during the year were:—

—	Number.	Tonnage.
Steamers	444	776,612
Sailing Vessels ...	676	69,289
Total... ...	1,120	845,901

This shows an increase of 151,070 tons on the shipping entered during 1903.

17. The nationality of these vessels is shown below:—

Nationality.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Tonnage	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British ...	391	685,684	603	48,437	994	734,121
Italian ...	27	58,020	3	1,389	30	59,409
Norwegian	21	26,309	8	6,367	29	32,676
German ...	3	5,442	—	—	3	5,442
American ...	—	—	9	4,790	9	4,790
Dutch ...	—	—	34	2,497	34	2,497
Other Countries	2	1,157	19	5,809	21	6,966
Totals ...	444	776,612	676	69,289	1,120	845,901

18. Twenty-four ships of war and nine yachts visited the Colony during 1904; the nationality of the former being:—

British	16
American	5
German	2
Italian	1

Ninety-six steamers coaled in the harbour, taking on board 16,379 tons of coal. 2,465,644 gallons of water were supplied to the shipping.

19. Exclusive of those in transit, 10,929 passengers arrived here during the year—3,557 being saloon passengers and the remainder steerage and deck passengers. 110 of the latter and 30 stowaways were refused permission to land.

20. The recent arrangement under which Dr. W. K. Ward, of the United States Public Health and Marine Hospital Service, has been attached to the American Consulate here for the purpose of inspecting all vessels clearing for the United States and of disinfecting any ships coming from an infected port and touching here on her way to the States is working very satisfactorily.

Excise.

21. Five stills for the manufacture of rum were in operation during 1904, the output being 199,187 gallons, of which 186,307 gallons were duty paid for local consumption. The excise duty remained at 3*s*. a gallon, and realised during the financial year a revenue of £27,393, which was very slightly

in excess of the amount collected in the year 1903-4. The duty of 3*s.* is a low one, but it is the very decided opinion of those most able to judge that any increase of the duty would not yield an increase of revenue, and this opinion appears to be supported by the fact that the largest revenue from this source, £32,553, was obtained in the year 1893, when the duty was 1*s.* 10*d.* a gallon. 328 licenses were granted to spirit retailers in 1904.

22. Hitherto each distiller has been required to pay an annual fee of £30 for a license for his still, but now a change has been made in the law, by which he pays a duty of ½*d.* a gallon on the output of the distillery. This more equitable arrangement has been adopted in consequence of the report on the subject made by Mr. J. Steele, C.B.

23. The Government Spirit Bond, established in the early part of the year, has proved so useful that an extension of the accommodation originally provided has already been found to be necessary. This is, no doubt, partly due to the fact that the bonding dues have been fixed at a very low figure. The revenue derived from them in 1904 was £130.

24. The system of ascertaining the contents of packages by weight has now been instituted at the West India Rum Refinery, which manufactures three-fourths of the rum produced in the Colony, and is found to work very satisfactorily.

Agriculture.

25. The customs returns show that 63,604 hogsheads of sugar and 45,061 puncheons of molasses were exported during 1904, the value of the crop being estimated at £584,403—a considerable improvement on the years 1902 and 1903.

26. The cotton and bananas industries, which owe their existence to the initiative of the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture, have continued to thrive under the guidance of that Department. It is estimated that some 300,000 pounds of cotton will this year be shipped from the 1,647 acres which are under cultivation. The price obtained for the cotton continues to be favourable, and the industry may now be considered to be established here with a fair promise of success. The data obtained from ten estates, each having an average of 9½ acres under cotton cultivation, show that during 1904 the average net return per acre was £10 8*s.* 4*d.*

27. It is now proposed to hand over the cotton factory, which has hitherto been worked under the combined management of the Agriculture Society and the Imperial Department of Agricultural with funds advanced from the Colonial Treasury, to a local company, and the Government has agreed to transfer to the company its interests in the factory in return

for £600, first mortgage debenture bonds, bearing interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum. The new company will work the factory on co-operative lines, and the maximum charge for ginning and baling will be one penny per pound.

28. The banana industry has grown from 18 bunches shipped in 1902 to 15,326 bunches shipped in 1904, and it is estimated that at the present time there are about 100 acres of land planted in bananas and that 40,000 bunches will be shipped during 1905. The difficulties in connection with the package and carriage of the fruit appear to have been successfully overcome, and it has been estimated that the industry should give a net return of £20 an acre per annum. The Cavendish or dwarf banana is the variety which can be shipped with the best results.

29. The exhibit of fruit and vegetables from this and two other West Indian Colonies obtained a certificate and gold medal at the Royal Horticultural Society's Exhibition held in December last. By the kndness of the West India Committee, who made all arrangements in connection with the exhibit, this Colony was presented with a duplicate of the medal.

III.—LEGISLATION.

30. Fifty Acts were passed by the Legislature during the session of 1904-5. The principal of these are:—

1904—22, which amends the Police Magistrates Acts, enables the Police Magistrates, with the consent of the person charged, to deal with trivial cases of cutting and wounding, which had previously to be sent on to the Court of Grand Sessions.

1904—24. This Act authorises the payment of a pension at the rate of £200 a year to Mr. Horace Deighton, M.A., on his retirement after 33 years of valuable service as Headmaster of Harrison College.

1904—25 attaches a salary of £250 per annum to the office of Solicitor-General.

1904—33 readjusts the license fee payable by distillers. Instead of a fixed fee of £30 per annum a tax of one half-penny a gallon on the rum distilled is substituted.

1904—38 renders the parents or guardians liable for offences committed by children in cases in which there is reason to believe that by wilful default or habitual neglect they have conduced to the commission of the offence.

1904—39. An Act for the prevention of cruelty to, and for the protection of, children.

1904—43 gives His Majesty's Imperial Government the right of pre-emption of all oil residues.

1905—6 exempts from duty rifles and ammunition imported by members of the Barbados Rifles Association.

1905—14 enables the person charged with an offence, and the wife or husband as the case may be, to be a witness for the defence in criminal cases.

1905—17 extends the provisions of the Plantations-in-Aid Acts for another year, but it requires any deficit on the loans made to be repaid in four, instead of as hitherto five, annual instalments.

1905—19 gives effect to the recommendations of the Quarantine Conference which was held in the Colony in April-May, 1904.

1905—25 regulates the working of submarine cables and wireless telegraphy.

31. Several of the Acts are Consolidating Acts, and useful work has been done in this direction during the year.

IV.—EDUCATION.

32. The expenditure on education during 1904-5 was £18,158. There are nine colleges and higher grade schools with 575 scholars on the rolls, and 167 primary schools with 25,710 scholars.

33. The principal colleges and higher grade schools are:—

—	Government Grant.	Number of Scholars on Roll.
	£	
Codrington College	Nil	15
Harrison College	1,000	135
The Lodge School	500	41
The Combermere School	300	169
Queen's College (Girls)	400	113

34. The primary schools, which are maintained at the public expense, are established in connection with the denominations specified below:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils on Rolls.	Average attendance.	Government Grant.
				£
Church of England	132	20,308	12,212	8,015
Wesleyan	19	3,007	1,739	1,204
Moravian	16	2,395	1,400	978
Total... ...	167	25,710	15,351	10,197

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

35. The General Hospital is under the control of a Board of Directors appointed by the Legislature, and is subsidised by an annual grant from the Treasury of £6,630. The average daily number of inmates during 1904 was 198.

36. The institutions under the direct control of the Government are:—

Name of Institution.	Daily Average Number of inmates.	Expenditure, 1904–5.
		£
Prison...	333	5,114
Lunatic Asylum	361	5,108
Lazaretto	119	2,444
Industrial School	118	2,800

37. The poor relief system is administered by the Parochial Authorities. A sum of £17,095 was expended by them during 1904-5 on the maintenance of almshouses and in other methods of poor relief.

38. The Savings Bank had 14,773 depositors on the 31st of March, 1905, whose deposits amounted to the aggregate of £223,893. This is an increase of £6,684 on the corresponding period of last year. There were also 93 friendly societies with 14,004 members and invested funds to the value of £5,722.

The depositors in the Savings Bank are classified under the following heads:—

Agricultural and other labourers ...	1,436
Hawkers	500
Artisans	2,341
Friendly Societies, Clubs, &c. ...	324
Professional men	510
Merchants	205
Clerks	1,180
Shopkeepers	468
Public Officers	460
Planters	807
Teachers	267
Domestics	2,115
Seamen	239
Soldiers	43
Policemen and firemen	261
Seamstresses	732
No occupation	1,872
Unknown	963
Total number of depositors —	14,773

VI.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

39. For a total of 15,996 offences reported to the police during the year 1904, 14,110 persons were apprehended or summoned to appear before the Magistrates. These were dealt with in the following manner:—

Summarily convicted	10,004
Dismissed on the merits	2,888
Discharged for want of prosecution	1,143
Committed for trial at the Court of Grand Sessions	75
	14,110

The summary convictions before the Magistrates, which were 412 less than those of 1903, were for the offences specified below:—

1. Offences against Revenue, Highway and Health Acts	4,152
2. Offences against the person ...	3,193
3. Offences against property	1,193
4. Prædial larceny	838
5. Malicious injury to property ...	65
6. Other offences	563
	10,004

These figures compare very favourably with those of the preceding year, for although there was an increase under the offences included under the first heading, the majority of these cases were for trivial breaches of the Highway Acts, while there was a marked decrease in the graver offences against the person and property, and in prædial larceny.

40. The 75 cases dealt with in the Supreme Court were disposed of as follows:—

Offences.	No. of Cases.	Judgment for the Crown.	Judgment for the Prisoner.	Case fell through for want of Prosecution, including Cases where Bill was thrown out by Grand Jury.
Murder (other than Wife or Child Murder).	3	—	—	3
Other Offences against the Person.	15	11	3	1
Other Offences against Property.	47	37	6	4
Miscellaneous Offences ...	10	8	1	1
Total	75	56	10	9

These figures also compare favourably with the statistics of 1903.

41. The number of persons convicted during the last ten years has been:—

Year.	Convictions.
1895	9,974
1896	8,628
1897	9,103
1898	9,254
1899	11,060
1900	12,201
1901	11,940
1902	11,802
1903	10,510
1904	10,060

The convictions of 1904 show a proportion of 5 per cent. to the total population, but if the cases for offences against the Highways Acts are not taken into account this proportion is reduced to a little under 3 per cent.

42. The convictions under the head of Prædial Larceny continue to show a decrease. The following table gives the convictions for this offence during the last ten years:—

Year.	Convictions for prædial larceny.
1895	1,772
1896	1,003
1897	950
1898	1,120
1899	1,367
1900	1,461
1901	1,298
1902	1,128
1903	955
1904	838

43. Glendairy Prison, the only one in the Colony, continued to be conducted in an efficient manner during the year. 3,082 persons were committed to it for various purposes, and of these 2,873 persons—1,321 men and 1,552 women—were sentenced to varying terms of penal imprisonment. The number of prisoners sentenced to such imprisonment was considerably less than the average of the last five years, but, perhaps for that very reason, the percentage of recidivists shows a large increase. Of the 2,873 persons committed 1,785, or 62·13 per cent., had previously undergone terms of imprisonment.

44. The following table shows the number of previous convictions:—

—	Previously convicted.			
	Once.	Twice.	Three or more times.	Total.
Males	247	141	424	812
Females	215	131	627	973
Total	462	272	1,051	1,785

45. The ages of the persons committed to the prison during 1904 are shown in the following table:—

Ages.	Males.	Females.	Total.
14 to 20 years	489	373	862
21 „ 30 „	451	719	1,170
31 „ 40 „	171	283	454
41 „ 50 „	120	110	230
51 „ 60 „	56	50	106
Over 60 „	34	17	51
Total	1,321	1,552	2,873

46. Of the 2,873 prisoners sentenced to penal imprisonment 1,446, over 50 per cent., were unable to read or write.

47. The trial that is being made of the "Borstal" system, under which juvenile-adult prisoners are dealt with under special regulations, framed with the object of securing their reclamation, continues to be a matter of experiment. It can hardly be hoped that very much good can result from the scheme until it is found possible to provide some separate accommodation for these juvenile-adults, and to remove them from their present prison surroundings.

48. An endeavour is being made to establish here a Prisoners' Aid Society.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

49. The population of the Island is estimated to have been 199,514 at the close of the year 1904. No census has been taken since 1891, when the population was found to be 182,306, but the increase of 17,206 since that date, shown by the above estimate, may be assumed to be fairly accurate. It is computed that the present population comprises 90,118 males and 109,396 females.

50. There were 7,944 births during 1904 and 4,622 burials. Of the births 4,495 were illegitimate. The death-rate was 23·67 per thousand of the population.

51. The health of the Island was good and, except for the prevalence of measles and influenza, there was no epidemic disease of any kind. The usual scattered cases of typhoid fever occurred here and there, attributable for the most part to the drinking of impure water. A proposal made by the Government to add typhoid fever to the list of notifiable diseases was rejected by the Legislature.

VIII.—GENERAL REMARKS.

52. Sir Gilbert T. Carter, K.C.M.G., assumed the administration of the Government in October in succession to Sir F. M. Hodgson, promoted to the Government of British Guiana.

53. A sum of £400 was voted by the Legislature to meet the expenses of sending an exhibit from the Colony to the Colonial and Indian Exhibition, held this year at the Crystal Palace. A very creditable collection of articles was made, and thanks to the kind assistance rendered in the matter by the West India Committee it is hoped that considerable material advantage may result to the Colony from this exhibit of its resources.

54. The annual conferences convened by the Imperial Department of Agriculture, which had to be discontinued during the prolonged epidemic of small-pox which visited this and some of the neighbouring Colonies, were resumed this year. Two delegates were sent by the Government to the conference, which was held in Trinidad, and other representatives were appointed to attend by the Agricultural Society.

55. There is reason to hope that the railway, which has stopped running since the latter part of June, will shortly resume its operations. The Legislature has promised to provide a subsidy of £2,000 a year for ten years, and the line

has now been taken over by a company, called the Barbados Light Railway, Limited.

56. It may also be noted as an item of local interest that arrangements have been made for establishing a branch library and a fire brigade in Speightstown—the town of second importance in the Colony.

57. A considerable number of labourers are taking advantage of the terms offered by the Panama Canal Commission, and are emigrating under contract to that place. Up to the present time some 2,130 have left the Colony to work on the canal.

58. Although it is pleasing to be able to record that the prospects of the sugar crop of 1906 are most favourable, and that the revenue of the present year shows a material increase over that of the year 1904-5, yet the recent heavy fall in the price of sugar, and the loss that will be entailed on the Colony by the withdrawal of the troops and the removal of the Royal Mail Company's headquarters to Trinidad will render it necessary to continue to exercise a careful control over the expenditure.

S. W. KNAGGS,
Acting Governor.

Barbados,
31st August, 1905.

APPENDIX A.

REVENUE.

Head.	1903-4.	1904-5.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	107,610	112,978	5,368	—
Port and Harbour dues ...	3,322	3,586	264	—
Excise	27,288	27,393	105	—
Licences	4,207	4,285	78	—
Police tax	3,742	3,703	—	39
Fees and fines, &c.	6,014	5,612	—	402
Post Office	6,342	6,754	412	—
Water-works	10,452	9,844	—	608
Other Heads of Service ...	9,452	9,407	—	45
Imperial Grant in Aid of Agriculture.	2,402	1,494	—	908
	180,831	185,056	6,227	2,002
Loan from Colonial Bank ...	3,500	—	—	3,500
Interest on loan of £80,000	1,022	—	—	1,022
Total	185,353	185,056	6,227	6,524

APPENDIX B.

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	1903-4.	1904-5.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	7,671	8,278	607	—
Post Office	9,037	9,440	403	—
Legal	12,720	12,443	—	277
Police	22,027	21,965	—	62
Ecclesiastical	10,864	10,895	31	—
Education	16,488	16,527	39	—
Medical Departments ...	17,669	15,914	—	1,755
Volunteer Force	708	452	—	256
Water Works	25,845	25,855	10	—
Pensions	7,802	7,970	168	—
Subsidies, &c.	10,210	11,155	945	—
Public Works Recurrent ...	2,913	3,338	425	—
Other Heads	32,037	34,565	2,528	—
	175,991	178,797	5,156	2,350
Repayment of loan to Colonial Bank.	6,318	4,500	—	1,818
Amount repaid Colonial Bank on account of advances Plantations in Aid Act.	39,492	—	—	39,492
Total	221,801	183,297	5,156	43,660

APPENDIX C.

COMPARATIVE REVENUE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish.	1900.	1901	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	22,709	24,857	21,811	22,746	26,569
Christ Church ...	2,915	2,990	2,639	2,836	4,392
St. Philip ...	3,386	3,734	3,934	3,796	5,374
St. George ...	2,304	2,722	2,562	2,595	3,813
St. John ...	2,183	2,238	2,244	2,266	3,125
St. Thomas ...	1,469	2,640	1,505	1,520	2,575
St. Joseph ...	1,364	1,506	1,356	1,376	2,363
St. Andrew ...	1,347	1,411	1,151	1,147	2,108
St. James ...	1,421	1,495	1,408	1,431	2,678
St. Lucy ...	1,487	2,016	2,011	1,883	2,671
St. Peter ...	1,962	1,958	1,951	1,892	2,807
Total ...	42,547	47,577	42,572	43,489	58,476

APPENDIX D.

COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	19,713	22,021	20,407	20,797	24,146
Christ Church ...	2,813	2,896	2,630	2,542	4,172
St. Philip ...	2,984	3,178	3,325	3,363	4,885
St. George ...	2,035	2,394	2,261	2,606	3,881
St. John ...	2,070	2,088	2,051	2,119	3,016
St. Thomas ...	1,519	2,648	1,490	1,437	2,527
St. Joseph ...	1,164	1,214	1,171	1,329	2,353
St. Andrew ...	1,239	1,311	1,122	1,179	2,260
St. James ...	1,387	1,439	1,405	1,421	2,664
St. Lucy ...	1,594	1,657	2,003	1,909	2,590
St. Peter ...	1,804	2,013	1,718	1,632	2,644
Total ...	38,322	42,859	39,583	40,334	55,138

APPENDIX E.

TOTAL VALUE OF THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	1,045,251	1,021,679	872,679	821,618	1,069,312
Exports	919,011	950,175	592,464	552,891	860,982
Total value of Trade.	1,964,262	1,971,854	1,465,143	1,374,509	1,920,294

APPENDIX F.

ARTICLES IMPORTED INTO BARBADOS AND RE-EXPORTED. COMPARING YEARS 1903 AND 1904.

Articles.	1903.	1904.	Increase.	Decrease.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Arrowroot...	278,030	373,602	95,572	—
Bacon and Hams...	12,043	61,778	49,735	—
Beef, salted or pickled	250,279	570,412	320,133	—
Bran and Pollard...	64,557	297,016	232,459	—
Bread, Pilot, Navy and Crackers	39,426	55,065	15,639	—
Butter	17,352	83,995	66,643	—
Margarine, Oleomargarine, &c. ...	16,359	66,621	50,262	—
Cheese	1,953	16,575	14,622	—
Coffee	32,220	79,024	46,804	—
Copper and Brass...	38,528	14,721	—	23,807
Corn or Maize	266,300	34,984	—	231,316
	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.
Fish dried, salted or smoked ...	13,216	12,584	—	632
	brls.	brls.	brls.	brls.
Flour, Wheat or Rye	6,952	28,705	21,753	—
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Grain, unenumerated	169,516	192,760	22,244	—
Hay and Straw	157,148	34,839	—	122,309
Lard	32,800	180,820	148,020	—
	hhds.	hhds.	hhds.	hhds.
Liquors, Malt, Cider and Perry in wood.	118	226	108	—
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Manures	196	22	—	174
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Oats	300,555	348,638	48,083	—
Oilmeal and Oilcake	69,044	34,625	—	34,419
	glns.	glns.	glns.	glns.
Petroleum...	21,337	164,935	143,598	—
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Pork, salted or pickled	78,753	408,925	330,172	—
Rice	4,537,753	4,390,863	—	146,890
Soap	407,558	826,598	419,040	—
Tobacco	31,452	35,819	4,367	—

APPENDIX G.

Table showing Imports from and Exports to British North America for the last Ten Years 1895 to 1904.

Years.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1895	80,471	95,848
1896	98,203	119,729
1897	108,835	86,159
1898	115,162	116,667
1899	79,243	110,865
1900	77,843	146,689
1901	80,434	135,765
1902	81,186	122,273
1903	78,177	135,456
1904	75,749	249,000

APPENDIX H.

COMPARATIVE SHIPPING RETURN FOR THE YEARS 1903 AND 1904 (VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED).

Description.	1903.				1904.				Increase.				Decrease.			
	Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Steamers ...	672	66	1,197,700	88,300	779	105	1,367,222	180,695	107	39	169,522	92,395	—	—	—	—
Sailing Vessels	985	95	75,902	26,501	1,209	47	91,152	42,572	224	52	21,250	16,071	—	—	—	—
Total ...	1,657	161	1,273,602	114,801	1,988	252	1,464,374	223,267	321	91	190,772	108,466	—	—	—	—

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TOTAL SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED FROM 1900 TO 1904.

—	1900.		1901.		1902.		1903.		1904.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage	Ships.	Tonnage.
Total entered and cleared ...	2,199	1,361,466	2,163	1,476,166	1,745	1,419,339	1,818	1,388,403	2,240	1,687,641

APPENDIX I.

ANALYSIS OF SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED 1903 AND 1904.

Nationality.	1903.		1904.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	1,657	1,273,602	1,988	1,464,374	331	190,772	—	—
American	17	7,264	19	10,124	2	2,860	—	—
Dutch	48	3,514	67	4,877	19	1,363	—	—
Danish...	6	3,898	6	3,678	—	—	—	220
French	4	976	10	454	6	—	—	522
Italian	36	52,312	60	118,818	24	66,506	—	—
Venezuelan	—	—	2	192	2	192	—	—
Russian	7	2,531	15	3,991	8	1,460	—	—
Swedish	—	—	2	1,598	2	1,598	—	—
Norwegian	37	36,636	57	64,390	20	27,754	—	—
German	2	3,644	6	10,884	4	7,240	—	—
Austrian	2	720	—	—	—	—	2	720
Belgian	2	3,306	—	—	—	—	2	3,306
Portuguese	—	—	6	2,122	6	2,122	—	—
Spanish	—	—	2	2,136	2	2,136	—	—
Totals	1,818	1,388,403	2,240	1,687,638	426	304,003	4	4,768

APPENDIX J.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES CROPS AND THEIR VALUES (PACKAGE INCLUDED) FROM 1896-1904.

Year.	Articles.	Quantity and Value.				Total Value.	
		Hhds.	£	s.	d.	£	£
1896 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	45,789 at	8	10	0	389,206	558,159
	„ Dry	3,610 „	13	0	0	46,930	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	36,607 „	3	6	8	122,023	
		Hhds.					
1897 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	56,397 „	7	10	0	422,977	533,524
	„ Dry	2,203 „	11	2	0	24,453	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	37,432 „	2	6	0	86,094	
		Hhds.					
1898 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	52,009 „	8	0	0	416,072	527,280
	„ Dry	1,566 „	12	0	0	18,792	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	34,123 „	2	14	2	92,416	
		Hhds.					
1899 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	43,907 „	10	0	0	439,070	583,002
	„ Dry	2,312 „	15	0	0	34,680	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	29,134 „	3	15	0	109,252	
		Hhds.					
1900 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	48,583 „	10	0	0	485,730	658,642
	„ Dry	1,998 „	12	0	0	23,976	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	37,234 „	4	0	0	148,936	
		Hhds.					
1901 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	61,074 „	8	10	0	519,129	708,277
	„ Dry	3,936 „	11	10	0	45,264	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	46,043 „	3	2	6	143,884	
		Hhds.					
1902 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	50,406 „	5	15	0	289,834	421,329
	„ Dry	1,681 „	7	0	0	11,767	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	42,760 „	2	16	0	119,728	
		Hhds.					
1903 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	35,170 „	6	12	0	232,122	396,294
	„ Dry	3,453 „	8	0	0	27,624	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	30,344 „	4	10	0	136,548	
		Hhds.					
1904 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	61,079 „	6	16	0	415,337	584,403
	„ Dry	2,525 „	9	17	0	24,871	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	45,061 „	3	4	0	144,195	

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448	St. Helena	”
449	Falkland Islands	”
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451	Hong Kong	”
452	Gambia	”
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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 497.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1905-6.

(For Report for 1904–5, *see* No. 466.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
September, 1906.

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No. 497.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1904-5, *see* No. 466.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
7th August, 1906.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to forward the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1905-6 and my report thereon.

I have, &c.,

S. W. KNAGGS,
Acting Governor.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR 1905-6.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue of the year 1905-6 was £192,291, and the expenditure £180,932, and the Treasury balance of £6,595 with which the financial year opened had consequently on the 31st of March, 1906, been increased to £17,954.

2. The revenue, which considerably exceeded the estimate, was larger by £7,235 than that of the previous financial year, and £13,706 in excess of the average of the five preceding years. This large increase was principally due to the receipts from the Customs, which realized £118,854, and were £11,929 more than the estimate and higher by £12,459 than the average of the five preceding years. The other principal increases are shown under the heads of Post Office, Special Receipts, and Water Works, while small decreases occurred under Port and Harbour Dues, Excise, Licences, and Fees of Office, which all failed to realize the amounts placed on the estimates.

3. The large increase in the Customs receipts was chiefly due to the increased importations during the quarter ended on the 31st of March, 1906, in anticipation of a good sugar crop and fair prices; but unfortunately, although the estimate of the crop has been fully realized, the prices obtained for it have been most disappointing. The Excise duty continues to dwindle without any other apparent cause than the sober habits of the people. The amount received, £27,062, fell short of the estimate by £938, and was £331 less than the revenue under this head during the year 1904-5.

4. It was necessary to continue to augment the revenue by keeping in operation the Acts which authorize an addition of 20 per cent. to the Customs and Excise duties. The revenue brought in by these two Acts during the year 1905-6 was £22,445, and as in such a favourable year as that under review the surplus was only £11,359 it will be apparent how impossible it would be to attempt altogether to repeal these Acts at the present time unless additional revenue were provided in some other way. When sufficient time has elapsed to enable an

estimate to be made of the effect on the Colony's finances of the withdrawal of the troops, and the loss of a subsidized line of mail steamers, it is to be hoped that it may be possible to effect a gradual reduction of these extra duties.

5. The expenditure of £180,931 was £1,417 in excess of the estimate, and £574 more than the average of the five previous years. This latter fact is, however, only due to the very large expenditure rendered necessary during the year 1902-3 by the small-pox epidemic, and if that year is omitted from consideration it will be found that the expenditure of 1905-6 was £4,072 in excess of the average of the four other years. It is true that there was in the year 1905-6 a large miscellaneous expenditure of £5,856, but the gradual increase in the recurrent expenditure of a Colony where the revenue has probably reached its greatest limit of expansion demands the very serious consideration of all concerned in the administration of the finances of the island.

6. The statements given below show the revenue and expenditure of the last 26 years and the heads under which the increase of expenditure of £44,165 has occurred:—

STATEMENT of the REVENUE for the Years 1880 to 1905-6.

Year.	Rate of Customs ad valorem Duty.	Rate of Excise Duty.	Customs Receipts.	Excise Receipts.	Total Revenue.	Expenditure.	Treasury Balance.
			£	£	£	£	£
1880	4 %	1s. per Gal.	86,993	19,618	136,403	136,767	16,692
1881	"	"	86,018	17,005	132,942	133,867	16,267
1882	"	"	89,681	18,557	141,714	140,507	12,669
1883	"	"	88,754	19,171	140,079	143,107	3,450
1884	"	1s. to 31st March 1s. 6d. from April	89,324	22,633	145,297	143,897	4,850
1885	4 % to 6th July 8 % from 7th July	1s. 6d. per Gal.	85,493	22,576	145,758	146,134	4,474
1886	8 %	"	82,856	22,255	136,286	136,628	4,131
1887	"	"	92,938	26,134	163,489	154,611	13,010
1888	"	"	100,287	24,997	162,713	149,710	26,013
1889	"	"	111,437	26,206	174,719	146,106	54,627
1890	"	"	116,415	30,517	188,179	181,636	59,170
1891	"	"	99,780	25,298	163,906	176,801	46,275
1892	"	1s. to Nov. 1s. 10d. from Nov.	92,340	28,919	162,664	199,130	9,809
1893	"	1s. per Gal.	94,480	32,553	161,730	164,633	6,906
1894	"	"	94,243	29,422	160,624	161,279	6,252
1895	"	"	82,529	25,666	146,315	152,039	528
1896	8 % to 23rd June 9⅗ % from 24 June	1s. to 23rd June 2s. 6d. from 24th June	104,191	27,461	177,032	184,020	2,040
1897	10 %	2s. 6d. per Gal.	106,880	32,226	184,706	172,551	14,195
1898	"	"	106,709	32,461	182,682	177,340	11,037
1899	"	"	104,370	29,124	176,022	176,984	19,176
1900	"	"	114,255	26,974	185,475	176,182	19,369
1901-2	10 % to 20th Oct., 1902. 12 % from 21st Oct., 1902.	2s. 6d. to 20th Oct., 1902. 3s. from 21st Oct., 1902.	104,972	27,338	179,973	175,350	28,577
1902-3	12 %	3s. per Gal.	92,530	24,280	161,585	194,347	2,815
1903-4	"	"	107,610	27,288	181,853	175,992	4,836
1904-5	"	"	112,978	27,393	185,056	178,612	6,596
1905-6	"	"	118,854	27,062	192,291	180,932	17,956

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEARS 1880 AND 1905-6.

—	Year Ended.		Increase 1905–1906.	Decrease 1905–1906.
	31st Dec., 1880.	31st March, 1905–1906.		
	£	£	£	£
The Governor	347	3,141	2,794	—
Colonial Secretary	1,877	1,606	—	271
Colonial Treasurer	1,434	1,114	—	320
Auditor General	901	1,217	316	—
Harbour Master and Signal Stations.	1,054	757	—	297
Customs and Inland Revenue Department.	10,231	9,077	—	1,154
Powder Magazine	—	63	63	—
Post Office	3,185	7,004	3,819	—
Market	371	669	298	—
Fire Brigade	1,210	1,182	—	28
Lighthouses	713	664	—	49
Registration	—	1,063	1,063	—
Legislature	1,169	967	—	202
Legal	10,869	12,920	2,051	—
Police	22,712	22,149	—	563
Prisons	7,766	5,415	—	2,351
Government Industrial School.	—	2,429	2,429	—
Ecclesiastical	11,719	10,864	—	855
Education	13,132	17,439	4,307	—
Chemistry and Agricultural Science.	—	1,605	1,605	—
Library	629	550	—	79
Medical	14,807	16,386	1,579	—
Volunteer Force	—	906	906	—
Water Works	—	26,351	26,351	—
Pensions	3,429	7,703	4,274	—
Charges of Debt	2	3,790	3,788	—
Subsidies and Grants	13,225	10,740	—	2,485
Miscellaneous	10,176	5,856	—	4,320
Public Works Department	801	671	—	130
do. do. Recurrent	4,908	2,976	—	1,932
do. do. Extraordinary	—	1,773	1,773	—
Agriculture	—	1,885	1,885	—
Savings Bank	100	—	—	100
	136,767	180,932	59,301	15,136
		136,767	15,136	
		44,165	44,165	

7. The public debt of the Colony on the 31st of March, 1906, stood at £416,000, of which £375,000 represented the loan for water works and £41,000 the unredeemed balance of the loan of £60,000 raised from time to time for various other public works. The sinking fund accumulations now amount to £58,642, and in addition to this there is an unexpended balance

of the water works loan, £25,906, invested in inscribed stock. Practically, then, the Public Debt of the Colony amounts to £331,452.

8. The total revenue of the eleven parishes was £55,710, and the expenditure £54,107.

9. No changes were made during the year in the general system of taxation, but amendments were introduced into the Customs Tariff Act to relieve the members of the Rifle Association from the payment of duty on their arms and ammunition, and to enable manufacturers of chemical manures to obtain a rebate on exportation of their manure of the duty paid on the ingredients used in its composition.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

10. The value of the imports of the year 1905 was £1,042,562, and that of the exports £935,844. The imports, as compared with those of the previous years, show a decline in value of £26,750, but the exports increased by £74,862.

11. The following table shows the articles of import in which the principal variations occurred:—.

Article.	1904.	1905.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Animals, living	24,595	25,127	532	—
Bran and Pollard	7,618	6,452	—	1,166
Bread and Crackers	10,624	14,533	3,909	—
Butter and Oleomargarine...	21,744	18,723	—	3,021
Coal	34,736	28,580	—	6,156
Coffee	7,306	13,643	6,337	—
Corn and Grain, including Oats.	34,964	29,249	—	5,715
Cornmeal	23,073	27,354	4,281	—
Cotton, Linen, Silk, and Woollen Goods.	179,370	168,640	—	10,730
Fish, salted	29,603	33,184	3,581	—
Flour, Wheat or Rye ...	60,613	68,540	7,927	—
Hardware, including metal, new.	29,808	30,727	919	—
Leather and Manufactures thereof, including Boots and Shoes.	19,736	17,459	—	2,277
Liquors	24,411	24,772	361	—
Machinery	11,214	17,459	6,245	—
Meat, salted and cured ...	60,370	45,458	—	14,912
Oil, except Whale and Petroleum.	15,660	11,659	—	4,001
Oilmeal and Oilcake ...	12,641	13,398	757	—
Rice	79,245	81,067	1,822	—
Soap	17,667	16,965	—	702
Lumber	25,991	22,829	—	3,162
Staves	36,524	20,557	—	15,967

12. The countries of origin of the imports were:—

United Kingdom	£445,455
United States of America	336,706
British West Indies	106,696
Canada	78,576
East Indies	31,138
Foreign West Indies	16,820
Newfoundland	5,005
France	4,508
Chili	4,455
The Azores	4,300
Brazil	2,781
Bermuda	1,450
Madeira	1,275
Venezuela	1,109
Other Countries	2,288
	£1,042,562

13. The value of the principal importations from British North America and from the United States of America respectively are shown in the following table:—

Articles.	Value.	
	From British North America.	From United States.
	£	£
Bacon and Hams	114	2,302
Beef and Pork (salted or pickled) ...	185	19,478
Bran and Pollard	—	6,408
Bread and Crackers	—	12,361
Butter	1,177	2,046
Oleomargarine	—	3,952
Corn and Maize (unground)	—	8,683
Cornmeal	—	26,848
Fish (salted)	14,920	17,975
Flour, Wheat or Rye	6,436	59,837
Grain, unenumerated	460	7,176
Lard and compounds	—	8,434
Oats	134	20,249
Oilmeal and Oilcake	—	13,383
Wood:		
White Pine, Pitch Pine, &c.	14.835	4,655
Shingles	10,741	—
Staves	8,875	10,782

14. The value of the transit trade shows an increase of £5,711 over that of the previous year, the articles exported under that head having been:—

Animals, living	£4,923
Bullion, raw gold and coin	46,354
Butter and Oleomargarine	4,666
Cotton, Linen, Silk, and Woollen Goods	34,623
Fish, salted	14,371
Flour, wheat or rye	16,487
Liquors	10,728
Manures	2,220
Meat, salted and cured	11,642
Rice	12,215
Soap	6,150
Other articles	74,636
	£239,015

15. The exports were shipped to the following countries:—

United States of America	£265,537
Canada	206,614
United Kingdom	180,455
British West Indies	158,941
Newfoundland	69,481
Foreign West Indies	42,444
Madeira	5,679
Brazil	2,816
Bermuda	2,613
Other places	1,264
	£935,844

Of this total export trade, the produce and manufactures of the Colony represented a value of £696,829, and was distributed as follows:—

British North America	£275,488
United States of America	245,991
United Kingdom	124,523
British West Indies	37,474
Foreign West Indies	4,498
Madeira	5,679
Other places	3,176

16. The sugar crop fell short of that of the previous year, the quantities exported having been 47,097 hogsheads of sugar and 39,379 puncheons of molasses, less by 16,507 hogsheads and 5,682 puncheons respectively than the exports of 1904; but owing to the better prices for sugar prevailing during the earlier part of the year the value of the produce exported in 1905 shows an increase of £69,152, under the following heads:—

Articles.	1904.	1905.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Sugar	440,208	451,491	11,283
Molasses	144,195	177,205	33,010
Cotton	9,593	17,211	7,618
Other products	33,682	50,923	17,241
Total	627,678	696,830	69,152

17. The sugar and molasses were exported to the following countries:—

SUGAR.

Countries.	Hogsheads.	Values.
		£
United States of America	25,080	238,260
Canada	11,091	107,335
United Kingdom	9,256	90,032
Other British Colonies	1,481	14,069
Other Foreign Countries	189	1,795
Total	47,097	451,491

MOLASSES.

Countries.	Puncheons.	Values.
		£
Canada	21,919	98,635
British North America (Newfoundland) ...	15,358	69,111
Madeira	1,262	5,679
United Kingdom	669	3,010
British West Indies	123	554
Other places	48	216
Total	39,379	177,205

18. The returns show a steady increase in the exports of the minor products of the Colony, which in 1905 reached a value of £68,036, under the following heads:—

Aerated mineral water	£595
Animals	2,422
Art, works of	19
Bananas	6,706
Cotton, raw	17,211
Chemical manufactures	544
Fruit and vegetables, fresh	11,804
Hides, raw	5,375
Ice	205
Lime, building and temper	3,174
Manjak	9,292
Oil, whale	70
Paints	165
Tamarinds	123
Other minor products	10,331
Total ...	£68,036

19. The figures in the following statements, which extend over a period of 46 years, show that while in that time there has been but little variation in the sources from which the imports are drawn, the export of products to the United Kingdom has gradually diminished in favour of the United States and British North America. It is somewhat disappointing to find that, notwithstanding the large increase in the export trade with Canada and the facilities offered by the contract service furnished by the Pickford and Black Line of steamers, there is but little growth in the value of the imports from that country:—

Imports.

Country.	1860.	1870.	1880.	1890.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
United Kingdom	44·63	38·68	37·99	42·61	42·68	45·29	43·71	44·09	44·86	42·72
United States	33·57	32·08	37·85	35·73	34·20	36·71	32·51	35·47	33·01	32·30
British North America ..	8·06	6·78	8·94	8·01	7·45	7·87	9·30	9·52	7·10	8·02
Other Countries	13·74	22·46	15·22	13·65	15·67	10·13	14·48	10·92	15·03	16·96

Exports (Local products).

Country.	1860.	1870.	1880.	1890.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
United Kingdom	67·75	55·95	43·22	10·84	7·42	3·65	5·12	3·18	9·41	17·87
United States	5·65	11·32	24·83	61·00	54·53	74·37	63·58	60·10	45·44	35·30
British North America ..	3·01	6·49	14·25	13·44	15·98	18·22	27·42	32·21	39·67	39·54
Other Countries	23·59	26·24	17·70	14·72	22·07	3·76	3·88	4·51	5·48	7·29

20. An increased use continues to be made of the Government Spirit Bond, which was established in 1903. The sum of £214 was received from it in 1905 for warehouse dues.

SHIPPING.

21. The number of vessels which entered at Bridgetown, the only port of the Colony, during the year 1905 was 1,121, with an aggregate tonnage of 849,774 tons. Of these, 1,009 were British vessels, with a tonnage of 796,260 tons, as under:—

—	Number.	Tonnage.
British Steamers...	416	747,334
British Sailing Vessels	593	48,926
Total... ...	1,009	796,260

The other vessels belonged to the following countries:—

Nationality.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Tonnage	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Italy ...	5	14,476	4	2,004	9	16,480
Norway ...	13	14,297	3	1,689	16	15,986
United States ...	—	—	14	6,998	14	6,998
Germany ...	4	5,325	—	—	4	5,325
Holland ...	—	—	52	3,754	52	3,754
Belgium ...	1	2,650	—	—	1	2,650
Russia ...	—	—	2	646	2	646
Portugal ...	—	—	4	626	4	626
France ...	2	176	4	251	6	427
Sweden ...	—	—	1	221	1	221
Denmark ...	—	—	1	209	1	209
Venezuela...	—	—	2	192	2	192
Totals ...	25	36,924	87	16,590	112	53,514

22. Fourteen ships of war and five yachts anchored in the harbour during the year. The ships of war belonged to the following nationalities:—

Great Britain	8
Italy	2
United States	1
Holland	1
Mexico	1
Brazil	1

23. A continued increase is noticeable in the number of steamers which coal at this port. It is probable that the growth of this business is in some degree due to the facilities which also exist here for obtaining a supply of pure water. The Chamber of Commerce is at present considering the question whether it may not be possible to adopt measures for increasing the coaling facilities of the port, and it is to be hoped that they may be able to suggest some practicable method of improving the existing arrangements. The number of steamers taking coal during the last three years was as under:—

1903— 73 steamers took 11,568 tons.
1904— 96 steamers took 16,379 tons.
1905—121 steamers took 20,073 tons.

24. The arrangement under which one Medical Officer of Health has been appointed for the purposes of the Quarantine Act, instead of two officers as formerly, has been working successfully under the recently-appointed officer, Dr. J. F. E. Bridger.

EXCISE.

25. Five licensed stills for the manufacture of rum were licensed in 1905, their combined output being 192,964 gallons, of which 176,760 gallons entered into local consumption. The Excise duty remained at 3*s.* a gallon, and realized during the financial year 1905-6 a sum of £27,062, which was less than the receipts of the previous financial year by £331. The number of licences issued for the retail of spirits was 346, and the amount received for the licence fees £3,795. It is a matter for congratulation that the number of licensed spirit dealers is 152 less than it was ten years ago.

26. The export trade in rum has now shrunk to a negligible quantity, only 1,283 gallons, valued at £97, having been exported during 1905.

AGRICULTURE.

27. The sugar crop for the year 1905 was 45,469 hogsheads of muscovado, 1,628 hogsheads of vacuum pan crystals, and 39,379 puncheons of molasses, of the value of £628,697. This is less than that of the previous year by 16,507 hogsheads of sugar and 5,682 puncheons of molasses. Although the crop was less than that of the previous year, owing to the increased price at which it was sold the value was £44,293 more. It may also be mentioned that the crop in 1905 was slightly below the average for the past thirty years as regards sugar, which is 54,907 hogsheads, but owing to the fact that a certain quantity of "fancy molasses" was manufactured, it was higher as regards molasses, which is 37,186 puncheons. Owing to the

rebate of 33⅓ per cent. of the duty, which the Canadian Government allows on sugar from the British Colonies, the exports of sugar to that country have considerably increased, as will be seen from the value of the exports for the past four years, viz.: 1902, £122,199; 1903, £135,339; 1904, £200,388; and 1905, £206,007; while at the same time the exports to the United States have decreased.

28. The cotton industry, which was started in 1902, still continues to make satisfactory progress. It is estimated that in 1905 2,000 acres were under this crop, and the quantity of cotton exported was 344,232 lbs. The prices obtained varied from 12½*d.* to 17*d.* per lb., and were remunerative. So satisfactory has the industry proved since it was started four years ago, that it is estimated that 5,000 acres will be planted in cotton during the coming season. Where care has been taken with the cultivation, the net return has amounted to £10 and over per acre.

29. At the beginning of last November, the cotton factory, which belonged to the Government and which was worked under a Committee of the Agricultural Society appointed to assist the Imperial Department of Agriculture in the establishment of subsidiary industries, was transferred to the Barbados Co-operative Cotton Factory, Ltd., for £600 first mortgage debenture bonds, bearing interest at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, the bonds to be redeemed within twenty-one years. The new company charged ¾*d.* per lb. for ginning and baling the lint. Owing to the increase in the cotton industry, the company has recently increased its capital by the issue of additional shares, and is at present erecting a new factory of 24 gins, so as to be in a position to gin all the cotton sent to the factory within a reasonable time.

30. In 1902 the Imperial Department of Agriculture made an effort to establish a trade in bananas with the United Kingdom, the Barbados banana being of the same variety as that so largely exported from the Canary Islands. In 1902 the Department shipped 18 bunches; in 1903, 6,691 bunches; in 1904, 15,326 bunches; and in 1905, 35,439 bunches. Up to the beginning of July, 1905, the banana industry seemed to be fairly established, the fruit was arriving in good condition, the planters were getting good prices and were in consequence increasing the areas under cultivation. From that date, however, in consequence of defects in the shipping arrangements, the bananas began to arrive in England in bad condition, and the planters lost so heavily on their shipments that they have practically abandoned the attempt to grow the banana for export, and the industry which commenced with such promise may now be said to have almost ceased to exist.

31. The rainfall during the early part of 1905 being fairly good, the cane crop was well advanced when the drought set

in at the end of the year, and the consequence was that the canes were not very much affected in their growth and ripened up satisfactorily, the result being that the crop for 1906 is expected to be 50,000 tons of sugar and 60,000 puncheons of molasses, *i.e.*, 2,903 tons of sugar and 20,621 puncheons of molasses more than the previous year, when the rainfall for the year in which the crop was grown, *i.e.*, 1904, was five inches more.

32. Barbados was represented at the Colonial and Indian Exhibition held at the Crystal Palace from May to September, 1905. The exhibits were for the most part representative of the products of the Colony, and a handbook containing historical, agricultural, and general information concerning the Colony was freely distributed to visitors. The local committee was awarded a Grand Prize for the general exhibit and a silver medal for descriptive literature, and individual exhibitors were awarded sixteen gold, fourteen silver, and five bronze medals. Prior to the Barbados Commissioner, the Hon. F. M. Alleyne, M.A., arriving in England, all arrangements were, on behalf of the Colony, undertaken by Mr. Algernon E. Aspinall, the secretary of the West India Committee, to whom, and also to Mr. Alleyne, the Commissioner, who undertook the reception and staging of the exhibits, the best thanks of the Colony are due.

III.—LEGISLATION.

33. Thirty-two Acts were passed during the year 1905, the majority of these being amending and consolidating Acts. The following may be specially noticed:—

No. 5.—To exempt members of the Barbados Rifle Association from the necessity of obtaining licences under the Firearms Act.

No. 6.—To exempt the rifles and ammunition imported for the Barbados Rifle Association from Customs dues.

No. 11.—Consolidates the laws with regard to the immigration of paupers, but adds a new provision to the effect that indigent natives of the Colony who have been absent continuously from it for five years and have acquired a domicile elsewhere may be refused permission to land.

No. 12.—Provides for the allowance of drawback on the shipment of artificial manures manufactured in the Colony.

No. 14.—Adopts the English law as to criminal evidence, under which every person charged with an offence, and the wife or husband as the case may be, shall be a competent witness for the defence.

No. 17.—Extends the operations o[illegible] Plantations in Aid Acts for another year.

No. 19.—Legalizes the decisions arrived at by the Intercolonial Quarantine Conference of 1904.

No. 25.—Provides for the regulation of submarine cables and wireless telegraphy.

IV.—EDUCATION.

34. The total expenditure on education during the year 1905-6 was £17,439. Besides Codrington College, the oldest educational institution in the island, which receives no aid from the Government, there are eight first and second grade schools with Government grants aggregating £2,625 per annum, and 166 primary schools with grants amounting to £10,305.

35. The statistics relating to the higher grade schools are given below:—

Name of School.	Government Grant.	Pupils' Fees, &c.	Number of Pupils on Roll.
Boys.			
	£	£	
Harrison College	1,000	1,755	118
The Lodge School ...	500	577	49
Combermere School ...	300	926	146
The Coleridge School ...	100	154	29
The Alleyne School ...	100	38	14
The Parry School ...	100	118	21
Girls.			
Queen's College	400	1,042	107
The Alexandra School ...	125	252	40
Totals	2,625	4,862	524

36. The primary schools were established in connection with the following denominations:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Roll.	Average attendance.	Government Grant.
				£
Church of England	131	19,683	11,263	8,115
Wesleyan	19	2,863	1,542	1,223
Moravian	16	2,334	1,313	967
Total... ...	166	24,880	14,118	10,305

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

37. The General Hospital, which is under the control of a Board of Directors appointed by the Legislature, receives an annual grant from the Treasury of £6,630. The daily average number of inmates in the hospital during the year 1905 was 215, and 23,586 cases were treated in the out-patient department. The total expenditure on this institution during 1905 was £6,891 15*s.* 8*d.*

38. Glendairy Prison, the only one in the Colony, has separate cell accommodation for 275 male and 128 female prisoners. The daily average numbers in the prison during 1905 were 252 males and 106 females. The cost of the institution was £5,004, and the receipts from the work of the prisoners £14. The male prisoners are, however, largely employed on public works outside of the prison walls, and no computation is made of the value of their labour and the amount thus saved to the Colony. The "Borstal" system, under which juvenile-adult prisoners are dealt with under special regulations, continues in operation, but it can hardly be given a fair trial owing to the want of separate accommodation for this class of criminal.

39. The daily average number of inmates in the lunatic asylum during 1905 was 369, 161 males and 208 females. This shows an increase of eight over the numbers of the previous year. There were 98 admissions and 56 deaths during the year, and 34 patients were discharged cured and relieved. The expenditure on the institution in 1905 was £5,385 9*s.* 10*d.* The farm established in connection with the asylum continues to be worked with good results. It affords suitable employment for a number of the inmates, and in 1905 showed a profit of £154, the expenditure having been £394 and the value of the produce £548.

40. The daily average number of inmates in the Lazaretto during 1905 was 127, an increase of 8 on the average of 1904. There were 23 admissions during the year and 15 deaths, and the number of inmates on the 31st of December, 1905, was 121—55 males and 66 females. The expenditure on the institution in 1905 was £2,628 1*s.* 8*d.*

41. The Government Industrial School for Boys had 123 inmates on the 31st of December, 1905. There were 34 admissions and 32 discharges, making an increase of two over the numbers of the previous year. The cost of the school during 1905 was £1,901, but the receipts from the school were £587, and the net receipts from the Summervale land, which adjoins the school and is worked by the boys, were £737, so that the actual cost of this institution to the Colony was £577. The average cost of each boy's maintenance was £5 11*s.* 6*d.*

42. The industrial branches consist of field labour, gardening, carpentry, masonry, lime and colour washing, tailoring, cap, mat, and mattress making, washing clothes, cleaning floors, attending to stock, and cutting block stone. Garden plots are allotted to some of the boys as a means of encouraging habits of industry and thrift. Each boy pays a moderate rent for his plot, which is cultivated with such crops as are usually classed under the head of "Market Gardening." The produce is sold and the profits go to the boy.

43. The poor relief system is administered by the Parochial Authorities. A sum of £18,129 was expended by them during the year 1905-6 on the maintenance of almshouses and other methods of poor relief.

44. The number of depositors in the Government Savings Bank on the 31st of March, 1906, was 15,308, an increase of 535 on the number at the end of the previous year, and the amount of their deposits increased in the same period from £223,893 to £244,815. There are also 124 Friendly Societies in existence with 19,927 members. The operations of these societies are supervised by a Registrar appointed by the Governor.

45. There can be little doubt that the material prosperity of the people as evidenced by these figures is to a large extent due to the steady emigration that has taken place in late years to Canada, the United States, and more recently to Panama, and to the large remittances that are made to their families in the Colony by the emigrants. The Colonial Postmaster in his last annual report has drawn attention to the increase in the money order business with the United States and Canada. and reports that from enquiries he has made and from personal observation of the payees who present the orders he is certain that of the sum of £11,186 paid out during 1905 from the United States the greater part was paid to the families of persons who had emigrated from the Colony to find employment, and he adds that the same statement may be made with regard to the remittances from Canada. Now that arrangements have been made for a money order business between Panama and Barbados it will be possible to obtain some reliable statistics as to the remittances by emigrants to the Canal zone who have hitherto been obliged to send their remittances by registered letter.

VI.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

46. The number of offences reported to the police during 1905 was 17,176. For these offences 14,750 persons were brought before the Police Magistrates, the cases being decided as under:—

Summary convictions	10,739
Cases dismissed on the merits	2,651
Discharged for want of evidence ...	1,246
Committed for trial at the Court of Grand Sessions	114
	14,750

47. The summary convictions before the Magistrates were larger by 735 than those of the previous year, increases being shown under all the heads except that of offences against the person. The following table compares the figures of the years 1904 an' 1905:—

Summary Convictions.	Year.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1904.	1905.		
Offences against Revenue, Highway, and Health Acts.	4,152	4,259	107	—
Offences against the person ...	3,193	3,077	—	116
Offences against property ...	1,193	1,561	368	—
Prædial larceny	838	1,120	282	—
Malicious injury to property ...	65	68	3	—
Other offences	563	654	91	—
Total	10,004	10,739	—	—

There was nothing abnormal in the conditions of the year 1905 to account for this increase in crime, but it has to be noted that the figures of 1904 had shown a marked decrease as compared with the previous years in the graver offences against the person and against property.

48. The 96 cases dealt with in the Supreme Court fell under the following heads:—

Offences against property	81
Unnatural crimes	3
Other offences against the person	6
Miscellaneous offences	6
	96

The trial of these cases resulted as under:—

Judgment for the Crown	70
Judgment for the prisoner	18
Prisoner found insane	1
Not prosecuted	7

49. The number of convictions in all the Courts during the last five years is shown below:—

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
In the Supreme Court ...	103	117	94	56	70
In the Magistrates Courts...	11,843	11,685	10,416	10,004	10,739
Total	11,946	11,802	10,510	10,060	10,809

The percentage of convictions during 1905 to the population was 5·41, but if the offences against the Highway Acts, &c., which are for the most part trivial and hardly of a criminal nature, are eliminated, the percentage of convictions to the population will be reduced to 3·28.

50. The convictions under the head of prædial larceny, which had in the last two years shown a marked decrease, have unfortunately again considerably increased. This is a class of crime which assumes very serious proportions in a Colony which is entirely dependent on its agriculture, and at the same time it is one which it is difficult to bring home to the delinquent and to adequately punish. Of the 1,353 cases which were brought before the Magistrates during 1905, 1,120 were convicted and 233 were dismissed on the merits or for want of prosecution, but it is probable that only a very small percentage of the offenders are actually brought before the Courts. The following table shows the number of convictions for this class of offence during the last ten years:—

Year.	Convictions for prædial larceny.
1896	1,003
1897	950
1898	1,120
1899	1,367
1900	1,461
1901	1,298
1902	1,128
1903	955
1904	838
1905	1,120

51. The number of persons committed to prison during 1905 for penal imprisonment was 3,083—1,418 men and 1,665 women. Of these 790 men and 971 women had served previous terms of imprisonment; but notwithstanding this large proportion the number of recidivists continues to show a gradual decrease. The following table gives the figures of the last six years:—

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Committals ...	3,463	3,811	4,040	3,391	2,873	3,083
Recidivists ...	1,825	2,038	2,100	2,063	1,785	1,761

It was found that forty-nine per cent. of the prisoners committed were unable either to read or write.

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

52. The population of the Colony was estimated to consist on the 31st of December, 1905, of 90,075 males and 109,467 females—199,542 souls—an increase of 28 on the number at the end of the previous year. The births during 1905 exceeded the deaths by 2,165, but it is computed that the population was reduced to the extent of 2,137 by emigration.

53. The births numbered 7,949, giving a birth-rate for the year of 39·8 per thousand of the estimated population; there were 4,014 male and 3,935 female births. Of the children born, 4,447—a percentage of 55·9—were illegitimate.

54. 964 marriages were registered during the year.

55. The registered deaths numbered 5,784—2,737 males and 3,047 females; the death-rate was consequently 28·9 per thousand of the population. Of these deaths 3,543 were children under the age of five years. The respective death-rates of this section of the population and of that which includes children and persons of the ages of five years and upwards were 17·7 and 11·2 per thousand of the population.

VIII—METEOROLOGY.

56. The average barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea level, for 1905 was at 9 a.m. 29·960 inches and at 3 p.m. 29·893 inches. The highest pressure recorded was at 9 a.m. on 20th February, viz., 30·066 inches, and the lowest at 3 p.m. on 11th November, 29·758 inches.

57. The mean maximum temperature for the year was 84·3° F., and the mean minimum 75·4° F.; the maximum extreme 88·5° F. on May 20th and 28th, and the minimum extreme 62·2° F. on 23rd of February. The mean average temperature for the year was 79·8° F., and the average range 18·9° F. The average velocity of the wind for the year was 11·8 miles per hour.

58. The average rainfall for the Island from 197 stations was 54·59 inches, as compared with 59·38 from 199 stations for the previous year. This small rainfall has had a considerable effect on the water supply, and the Engineer of the Water Department reports that there has been a great diminution during the past year in the amount of water stored in the coral rock which covers the greater part of Barbados, owing to the decrease in the rainfall during the past two years. The plane of saturation has been lowered, and the flow of the springs reduced.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

59. One of the most interesting incidents of the year 1905 was the celebration on the 30th of November of the tercentenary of the English occupation of the Island. The day was proclaimed a general holiday, and was the occasion of numerous functions and festivities in which fifty thousand of the populace participated with much enthusiasm and orderly pleasure. There was a procession of all the public bodies, followed by a review, and permanent memorials to commemorate the event were erected with impressive ceremony.

60. The arrangements for the withdrawal of the troops were finally completed and the last instalment of the Imperial garrison left the Island in November. A large number of the military properties have been sold to the Colonial Government and to private purchasers, and only the larger barracks remain in the possession of the Imperial Government.

61. The public generally and the commercial community in particular has been greatly inconvenienced by the want of a

regular mail service with the United Kingdom since the termination in July, 1905, of the contract with the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company. Barbados, owing to its geographical position and the other means of communication which it in consequence possesses, has probably suffered to a far less extent than the other West Indian Colonies, but even here many disadvantages and drawbacks have been experienced since the suspension of the contract service.

62. The prolonged drought, to which reference has previously been made, caused considerable injury to the young canes from which the sugar crop of 1907 is to be reaped; but from the end of June the weather has been so favourable that the plants are recovering to a very large extent, and now give promise of a satisfactory harvest. The cotton cultivation is being considerably extended, the prices obtained for the cotton being most satisfactory.

S. W. Knaggs,
Governor, Acting.

Government House,
Barbados,
31st July, 1906.

APPENDIX A.

REVENUE.

Head.	1904-5.	1905-6.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	112,978	118,854	5,876	—
Port and Harbour dues ...	3,586	3,060	—	526
Excise	27,393	27,062	—	331
Licences	4,285	4,019	—	266
Police tax	3,703	3,724	21	—
Fees and fines, &c.	5,612	5,307	—	305
Post Office	6,754	7,690	936	—
Water-works	9,844	10,295	451	—
Other Heads of Service ...	9,407	10,285	878	—
Imperial Grant in Aid of Agriculture.	1,494	1,995	501	—
Total	185,056	192,291	8,663	1,428

APPENDIX B.

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	1904-5.	1905-6.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	8,278	9,077	799	—
Post Office	9,440	7,003	—	2,437
Legal	12,443	12,920	477	—
Police	21,965	22,149	184	—
Ecclesiastical	10,895	10,864	—	31
Education	16,527	17,439	912	—
Medical Departments ...	15,914	16,386	472	—
Volunteer Force	452	906	454	—
Water Works	25,855	26,350	495	—
Pensions	7,970	7,703	—	267
Subsidies, &c.	11,155	10,740	—	415
Public Works Recurrent ...	3,338	2,967	—	371
Other Heads	34,565	36,428	1,863	—
Total	178,797	180,932	5,656	3,521

APPENDIX C.

COMPARATIVE REVENUE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	24,857	21,811	22,746	26,569	23,707
Christ Church ...	2,990	2,639	2,836	4,392	4,525
St. Philip ...	3,734	3,934	3,796	5,374	4,862
St. George ...	2,722	2,562	2,595	3,813	3,819
St. John ...	2,238	2,244	2,266	3,125	3,052
St. Thomas ...	2,640	1,505	1,520	2,575	2,692
St. Joseph ...	1,506	1,356	1,376	2,363	2,346
St. Andrew ...	1,411	1,151	1,147	2,108	2,331
St. James ...	1,495	1,408	1,431	2,678	3,048
St. Lucy ...	2,016	2,011	1,883	2,671	2,623
St. Peter ...	1,958	1,951	1,892	2,807	2,704
Total ...	47,577	42,572	43,489	58,476	55,709

APPENDIX D.

COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	22,021	20,407	20,797	24,146	22,430
Christ Church ...	2,896	2,630	2,542	4,172	4,378
St. Philip ...	3,178	3,325	3,363	4,885	4,357
St. George ...	2,394	2,261	2,606	3,881	3,791
St. John ...	2,088	2,051	2,119	3,016	3,006
St. Thomas ...	2,648	1,490	1,437	2,527	2,684
St. Joseph ...	1,214	1,171	1,329	2,353	2,386
St. Andrew ...	1,311	1,122	1,179	2,260	2,211
St. James ...	1,439	1,405	1,421	2,664	2,715
St. Lucy ...	1,657	2,003	1,909	2,590	2,596
St. Peter ...	2,013	1,718	1,632	2,644	2,553
Total ...	42,859	39,583	40,334	55,138	54,107

APPENDIX E.

TOTAL VALUE OF THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	1,021,679	872,679	821,618	1,069,312	1,042,562
Exports	950,175	592,464	552,891	860,982	935,844
Total value of Trade.	1,971,854	1,465,143	1,374,509	1,930,294	1,978,406

APPENDIX F.

ARTICLES IMPORTED INTO BARBADOS AND RE-EXPORTED. COMPARING YEARS 1904 AND 1905.

Articles.	1904.	1905.	Increase.	Decrease.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Arrowroot...	404,325	487,191	82,866	—
Bacon and Hams...	35,074	26,314	—	8,760
Beef, salted or pickled	673,294	363,815	—	309,479
Bran and Pollard...	152,828	103,475	—	49,353
Bread	62,090	31,978	—	30,112
Butter	76,220	66,650	—	9,570
Margarine, Oleomargarine, &c. ...	38,742	31,121	—	7,621
Cocoa	305,360	580,574	275,214	—
Coffee	63,060	208,984	145,924	—
Copper and Brass...	51,184	103,596	52,412	—
Corn	636,139	661,123	24,984	—
Cotton	—	46,000	46,000	—
	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.
Fish, dried, salted or smoked ...	15,379	13,687	—	1,692
	brls.	brls.	brls.	brls.
Do., pickled	4,264	899	—	3,365
Flour, Wheat or Rye	38,327	16,487	—	21,840
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Grain, unenumerated	255,523	143,903	—	111,620
Hay and Straw	145,382	162,622	17,240	—
Lard	153,865	104,825	—	49,040
	hhds.	hhds.	hhds.	hhds.
Liquors, Malt, in wood	250	600	350	—
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Manures	286	218	—	68
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Oats	377,686	354,691	—	22,995
Oilmeal and Oilcake	146,059	152,399	6,340	—
	glns.	glns.	glns.	glns.
Petroleum...	105,880	165,030	59,150	—
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Pork, salted or pickled	292,574	199,234	—	93,340
Rice	3,194,245	1,954,359	—	1,239,886
Soap	668,128	738,091	69,936	—
Tobacco	34,059	41,692	7,633	—

APPENDIX G.

TABLE SHOWING IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO BRITISH NORTH AMERICA FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS, 1896 TO 1905.

Years.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1896	98,203	119,729
1897	108,835	86,159
1898	115,162	116,667
1899	79,243	110,865
1900	77,843	146,689
1901	80,434	135,765
1902	81,186	122,273
1903	78,177	135,456
1904	75,749	249,000
1905	83,581	276,095

APPENDIX H.

Comparative Shipping Return for the Years 1904 and 1905 (Vessels Entered and Cleared).

Description.	1904.				1905.				Increase.				Decrease.			
	Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Steamers ...	779	105	1,367,222	180,695	835	51	1,498,814	75,012	56	—	131,592	—	—	54	—	105,683
Sailing Vessels	1,209	147	97,152	42,572	1,175	170	96,173	30,788	—	23	—	—	34	—	979	11,784
Total ...	1,988	252	1,464,374	223,267	2,010	221	1,594,987	105,800	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	117,467

Comparative Statement of Total Shipping Entered and Cleared from 1901 to 1905.

—	1901.		1902.		1903.		1904.		1905.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
Total entered and cleared ...	2,163	1,476,166	1,745	1,419,339	1,818	1,308,403	2,240	1,687,641	2,231	1,700,787

APPENDIX I.

ANALYSIS OF SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED 1904 AND 1905.

Nationality.	1904.		1905.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	1,988	1,464,374	2,010	1,594,987	22	130,613	—	—
American	19	10,124	28	18,996	9	3,872	—	—
Dutch	67	4,877	105	7,625	38	2,748	—	—
Danish...	6	3,678	2	418	—	—	4	3,260
French	10	454	12	854	2	400	—	—
Italian	60	118,818	14	30,956	—	—	46	87,862
Venezuelan	2	192	5	492	3	300	—	—
Russian	15	3,991	4	1,292	—	—	11	2,699
Swedish	2	1,598	2	442	—	—	—	1,156
Norwegian	57	64,390	32	32,702	—	—	25	31,688
German	6	10,884	8	10,650	2	—	—	234
Austrian	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Belgian	—	—	2	5,300	2	5,300	—	—
Portuguese	6	2,122	7	1,073	1	—	—	1,049
Spanish	2	2,136	—	—	—	—	2	2,136
Totals	2,240	1,687,638	2,231	1,700,787	79	143,233	88	130,084

APPENDIX J.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES CROPS AND THEIR VALUES (PACKAGE INCLUDED) FROM 1896-1905.

Year.	Articles.	Quantity and Value.					Total Value.	
		Hhds.		£	s.	d.	£	£
1896 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	45,789	at	8	10	0	389,206	558,159
	„ Dry	3,610	„	13	0	0	46,930	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	36,607	„	3	6	8	122,023	
		Hhds.						
1897 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	56,397	„	7	10	0	422,977	533,524
	„ Dry	2,203	„	11	2	0	24,453	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	37,432	„	2	6	0	86,094	
		Hhds.						
1898 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	52,009	„	8	0	0	416,072	527,280
	„ Dry	1,566	„	12	0	0	18,792	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	34,123	„	2	14	2	92,416	
		Hhds.						
1899 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	43,907	„	10	0	0	439,070	583,002
	„ Dry	2,312	„	15	0	0	34,680	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	29,134	„	3	15	0	109,252	
		Hhds.						
1900 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	48,583	„	10	0	0	485,730	658,642
	„ Dry	1,998	„	12	0	0	23,976	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	37,234	„	4	0	0	148,936	
		Hhds.						
1901 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	61,074	„	8	10	0	519,129	708,277
	„ Dry	3,936	„	11	10	0	45,264	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	46,043	„	3	2	6	143,884	
		Hhds.						
1902 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	50,406	„	5	15	0	289,834	421,329
	„ Dry	1,681	„	7	0	0	11,767	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	42,760	„	2	16	0	119,728	
		Hhds.						
1903 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	35,170	„	6	12	0	232,122	396,294
	„ Dry	3,453	„	8	0	0	27,624	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	30,344	„	4	10	0	136,548	
		Hhds.						
1904 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	61,079	„	6	16	0	415,337	584,403
	„ Dry	2,525	„	9	17	0	24,871	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	45,061	„	3	4	0	144,193	
		Hhds.						
1905 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	45,469	„	9	10	0	431,955	628,696
	„ Dry	1,628	„	12	0	0	19,536	
		Puns.						
	Molasses	39,379	„	4	10	0	177,205	

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469	Trinidad and Tobago	1904–1905
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471	Bahamas	1904–1905
472	British Central Africa	"
473	Mauritius	1904
474	Fiji	"
475	East Africa Protectorate	1904–1905
476	Northern Nigeria	1904
477	British Guiana	1904–1905
478	Leeward Islands	"
479	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
480	Basutoland	"
481	Ceylon	1904
482	St. Lucia	"
483	Ashanti	1905
484	Bermuda	"
485	Hong Kong	"
486	St. Helena	"
487	Weihaiwei	"
488	Gold Coast	"
489	Seychelles	"
490	Falkland Islands	"
491	Gambia	"
492	Jamaica	1904–1905
493	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1905
494	Ceylon	"
495	Turks and Caicos Islands	1905
496	Bahamas	1905–1906

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
27	Miscellaneous Colonies	Medical Reports.
28	Gold Coast and Sierra Leone	Rubber.
29	Ceylon	Geological Survey.
30	Pitcairn Island	Report by Mr. R. T. Simon.
31	Northern Nigeria	Cotton, &c.
32	Do. Do.	Mineral Survey.
33	Southern Nigeria	Do.
34	Montserrat	Agricultural Industry.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.

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1906.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 544.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1906-7.

(For Report for 1905–6, *see* No. 497.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
October, 1907.

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No. 544.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1905–6, *see* No. 497.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Barbados,
31st August, 1907.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit the Barbados Blue Book for the year 1906–7 and my report thereon.

I have, &c.,
S. W. KNAGGS,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable
The Earl of Elgin, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR 1906-7.

I.—FINANCIAL.

The revenue of the year 1906–7 was £204,704 and the expenditure £186,016, giving a surplus of £18,688, and increasing the Treasury balance on the 31st of March, 1907, to £36,644.

2. The revenue exceeded the estimate by £20,603, and was larger by £12,413 than that of 1905–6, the principal increases, as compared with that year, having been under the following heads:—

	£
Customs	9,096
Excise	1,065
Post Office	863
Water Works	1,410

3. The revenue from Customs (£127,950) continues to show a satisfactory gradual increase notwithstanding the manner in which it must have been affected by the withdrawal of the garrison, and the cessation for some considerable period of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's regular contract services. The Customs receipts for the last previous 10 years were:—

	£
1896	104,191
1897	106,880
1898	106,709
1899	104,370
1900	114,255
1901–2	104,972
1902–3	92,530
1903–4	107,610
1904–5	112,978
1905–6	118,854

The receipts of 1906–7 were consequently £20,615 above the average of this period. The revenue from Excise, £28,127, also showed for the first time for some years a marked increase, and although this evidence of a larger expenditure by the people under this head is not a matter for unqualified gratification, it is but proper to note that there has been concurrently with it a general decrease in the criminal statistics of the Colony.

4. The expenditure (£186,016) was larger by £5,084 than that of the last previous financial year. This is attributable

partly to the fact that certain charges on account of the public debt which fell due in 1905–6 were paid during the year under review, but principally to the large increase in the coaling business of the Colony, which entailed corresponding allowances for drawback of duty.

5. The public debt of the Colony on the 31st of March, 1907, was £409,100, but as a set off against this there were sinking fund accumulations to the amount of £60,010 and an unexpended balance of £23,928 out of the loan of £375,000 which was effected in 1895 for the Water Works. If these are taken into account the public debt will stand at £325,162.

6. The revenue of the 11 parishes, including the legislative grant of £5,450 for road purposes, was £56,402, and the expenditure £54,221.

7. No change was made during the year in the general system of taxation. By the Act No. 17 of 1906 kerosine oil to be used as fuel for oil or motor engines is admitted free of duty.

II.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Imports and Exports.

8. The value of the imports during the year 1906 was £1,192,328, and of the exports £629,319.

9. The imports show an increase over those of 1905 of £149,766, mainly due to larger importations of cotton, linen, silk, and woollen goods, manures, coal, staves, and lumber. The following table shows the extent of these and other principal increases:—

—	Imports of 1905.	Imports of 1906.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Cotton, Silk, and Woollen Goods	168,640	208,166	39,526
Manures and Fertilizers	71,449	103,747	32,298
Coal...	28,580	57,170	28,590
Staves	20,557	42,470	21,913
Lumber	22,829	41,545	18,716
Corn and Grain	29,249	39,111	9,862
Meat, salted	45,458	54,445	8,987
Flour	68,540	75,574	7,034
Fish, salted...	33,184	39,774	6,590
Liquors	24,772	28,268	3,496
Leather, manufactured	17,459	20,692	3,233
Drugs and Chemicals	9,349	12,192	2,843
Oil	11,659	13,717	2,058

Decreases are chiefly shown under the following heads, the large diminution in the importation of rice being probably due to the more abundant supply of locally-grown produce, which, in conjunction with the operations of the local biscuit factory, would also account for the diminished importations of hard bread and cornmeal :—

—	Imports of 1905.	Imports of 1906.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Rice...	81,067	63,595	17,472
Hardware	30,727	22,931	7,796
Animals, living	25,127	18,717	6,410
Coffee	13,643	10,030	3,613
Cornmeal	27,354	24,027	3,327
Bread and crackers	14,533	12,000	2,533
Oilmeal	13,398	12,268	1,130

10. The following table shows the countries of origin of the imports, as compared with those of 1905 :—

Countries.	1905.	1906.
	£	£
United Kingdom	445,455	482,116
United States	336,706	404,334
Canada	83,581	86,673
British West Indies	81,388	84,792
British Guiana	25,309	35,779
East Indies (Calcutta)	31,138	33,546
Foreign West Indies	14,396	15,016
France...	4,508	12,347
Chili	4,455	7,642
Other places	15,626	30,083
	1,042,562	1,192,328

11. As an evidence of the greater stability of the sugar industry, due probably to the combined influence of the Brussels Convention and the operation of the local Plantations in Aid Acts, the following table, showing the value of the machinery imported during the last five years to be used in the manufacture of sugar or rum, may have some interest :—

Year.	From United Kingdom.			From United States.			From other Places.			Total.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1902... ...	4,766	1	10		16	10	78	1	8	4,845	0	4
1903... ...	3,189	1	7	98	9	4	647	11	6	3,935	2	5
1904... ...	7,760	3	4	182	16	0	450	15	11	8,393	15	3
1905... ...	5,813	14	9	342	1	7	920	2	11	7,075	19	3
1906... ...	12,580	1	4	31	9	7	1,522	19	3	14,134	10	2

12. The following table shows the imports during 1906 from Canada and the United States respectively :—

Articles.	From British North America.	From United States.
	£	£
Bacon and Hams	80	2,042
Beef and Pork (salted or pickled) ...	1,091	49,563
Bran and Pollard	1	7,316
Bread and Crackers	—	11,455
Butter	1,071	2,087
Oleomargarine	—	4,449
Corn and Maize (unground)	—	7,916
Cornmeal	6	23,927
Fish (salted)	20,508	18,563
Flour, Wheat or Rye	4,302	69,777
Grain, unenumerated	1,473	8,128
Lard and compounds	—	8,676
Oats	1	20,623
Oilmeal and Oilcake	—	12,267
Woods :		
White Pine, Pitch Pine, &c.	20,555	16,616
Shingles	6,182	17
Staves	1,856	27,212
Total value of principal and other articles	91,904	404,334

13. The value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony exported in 1906 shows a decrease of £67,511 on that of 1905; for although in 1906 the sugar crop was the larger the price of sugar was considerably lower. These exports were shipped to the undermentioned places :—

—	Amount.
	£
United Kingdom	158,693
Canada	243,225
United States of America	149,586
Newfoundland	45,737
British West Indies	18,550
British Guiana	5,042
Bermuda	2,670
French Guiana	1,830
Madeira	1,515
Foreign West Indies	1,171
Dutch Guiana	605
Colon	382
Holland	270
Africa, West Coast	36
British Honduras	6
Total	629,318

14. The staple products of the island for 1906 were estimated to value £592,123, as enumerated below :—

—	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Sugar, dry	1,984 hogsheads	15,872
„ muscovado	55,879 „	335,274
Molasses	61,398 puncheons	214,893
Rum	1,037 gallons	78
Cotton, raw	483,478 lbs.	26,006
Total	—	592,123

The sugar and molasses were distributed in the following manner :—

—	Sugar, Hogsheads.	Molasses, Puns.	Values.
			£
United Kingdom	20,465	1,143	127,176
Canada	16,118	40,913	243,086
Newfoundland	—	12,970	45,395
Other British Colonies ...	936	129	6,067
United States	20,116	5,793	141,372
Other Foreign Countries ...	228	450	2,943
Total	57,863	61,398	566,039

The entire cotton crop was shipped to the United Kingdom. The cultivation of this product continues to make satisfactory progress. The exports since 1903, the year when the industry was started, have been as under :—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£
1903	550	28
1904	191,861	9,593
1905	344,232	17,211
1906	488,473	26,003

15. The value of the minor products exported was less by £13,629 than that of 1905, as the following comparative table will show :—

—	1905.	1906.
	£	£
Aërated and mineral waters	595	322
Animals, living	2,422	2,250
Bananas	6,706	718
Bread, hard	9,780	2,768
Chemical manufactures	544	245
Fruit and vegetables, fresh...	5,098	7,167
Hides, raw	5,375	5,165
Ice	205	350
Lime, building and temper	3,174	1,423
Manjak	9,292	7,820
Oil, whale	70	608
Oleomargarine	4,391	5,129
Tamarinds	123	639
Other minor products	3,050	2,592
Total	50,825	37,196

The entire reduction is due to smaller exportations of locally-made biscuits and of bananas, the latter trade having been practically killed by the want of proper means of transportation.

16. The value of the transit trade showed a satisfactory increase of £64,632, having grown from £239,015 in 1905 to £303,647 in 1906.

SHIPPING.

17. Four hundred and forty-two steamers and 663 sailing vessels were entered during the year, their total tonnage being 881,528 tons. Their nationality was as under :—

Nationality.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British ...	415	765,946	589	58,937	1,004	824,883
American ...	1	1,634	11	4,681	12	6,315
German ...	1	1,914	—	—	1	1,914
Norwegian	20	30,568	5	3,452	25	34,020
Dutch ...	3	3,279	48	3,070	51	6,349
Danish ...	—	—	2	406	2	406
Russian ...	—	—	1	261	1	261
Italian ...	—	—	3	1,565	3	1,565
French ...	—	—	2	98	2	98
Portuguese	—	—	1	196	1	196
Venezuelan	—	—	1	45	1	45
Belgian ...	2	5,476	—	—	2	5,476
Totals ...	442	808,817	663	72,711	1,105	881,528

18. The coaling business of the port continues to increase, as the following figures will show :—

Year.	Number of Steamers that coaled.	Number of Tons of Coal they took in.
1903	73	12,000
1904	96	16,000
1905	121	20,000
1906	228	46,692

and there can be little doubt that were better facilities afforded for storing and handling the coal there would still be further expansion. The Government has at present under its consideration a scheme which it is hoped will provide in some measure the facilities needed.

19. The Harbour Master reports that 15,607 passengers arrived in the Colony during the year : 3,553 saloon passengers, and 12,054 third-class passengers and deckers. Among the latter were 3,501 natives of Barbados, who were returning after spells of employment in the Panama Canal zone. These brought back with them various sums of money aggregating £18,800.

EXCISE.

20. 184,729 gallons of locally-manufactured rum were duty paid in 1906—less than a gallon per head of the population. This showed an increased consumption of 7,969 gallons, and yielded £1,195 additional duty. The duty received was £27,709. The increased consumption is probably to be attributed to the return to the Colony of large numbers of labourers who had emigrated to Panama, and returned to spend their earnings here.

21. The duty on rum is 3*s*. a gallon, with a tax of one halfpenny a gallon for the distiller's licence. This tax is collected when the rum is duty paid.

22. The revenue from excise licences yielded £3,690, raising the total receipts from Excise duty to £31,399.

AGRICULTURE.

23. The sugar crop for the year 1906 was 55,879 hogsheads of muscovado, 1,984 hogsheads of vacuum pan crystals, and 61,398 puncheons of molasses, of the total value of £566,039. This is more than the previous year by 10,766 hogsheads of sugar, and 22,019 puncheons of molasses. Although the crop was more than the previous year, owing to the lower price at which it sold, the value was £62,658 less. The crop for 1906 was slightly above the average for the past sixty years as regards

sugar, which is 49,873 hogsheads, being 7,990 hogsheads more. At the present time a considerable quantity of "fancy" molasses is manufactured direct from the juice of the sugar cane, but no separate account is kept for the shipment of this grade; consequently, it is impossible to distinguish between molasses made in this way and that which drains from the sugar after it is manufactured. Owing to the preferential treatment accorded to the sugar imported into Canada from the British Colonies, the exports of sugar to that country from Barbados increased in value from £122,199 in 1902 to £206,007 in 1905. At the same time the exports to the United States decreased. In 1906, however, the exports of sugar to Canada dropped to £99,890, but at the same time sugar to the value of £121,632 was exported to Great Britain, chiefly for refining purposes, an increase of £35,296 on the previous year.

24. The rainfall during the early part of 1906 was below the average, and the young sugar canes, especially the ratoons, suffered to a considerable extent from the drought. The rainy season, however, commenced in June, and the rainfall conditions being favourable the canes made considerable progress until the end of November when dry weather again set in, and practically continued until the end of May, 1907; the result being that the sugar canes were somewhat dry, and the yield in many instances, especially on the estates on which ratoons were grown, below the average. The crop for 1907 is expected to be 33,000 tons of sugar, and 63,000 puncheons of molasses; *i.e.*, 24,863 tons of sugar less, and 1,602 puncheons of molasses more than the previous year.

25. The cotton industry, I am glad to report, still continues to make satisfactory progress. In 1906 it was estimated that 5,000 acres were under this crop, and it is estimated that about 1,600 bales containing 800,000 lbs. of lint will be exported therefrom, which at the average price of 2*s*. per lb. is £80,000. Although owing to the unfavourable weather conditions during the last season, the cotton crop has been short, yet as the prices obtained were good the planters have still, in most instances, realized a profit from the crop; consequently it is not likely that the area planted this season will be less than the last.

26. The cotton ginning factory belonging to the Barbados Co-operative Cotton Factory, Ltd., which was being erected last year, has been completed, and can now gin, without delay, all the cotton sent to it. A factory for the extraction of oil from cotton seed, and for the preparation of cotton-cake-meal for feeding the working oxen and other animals, has been erected by Messrs. H. E. Thorne & Son, and is now in operation.

27. The banana industry, which the Imperial Department of Agriculture sought to establish during the years 1902 to 1905, and which owing to defects in the shipping arrangements practically came to an end towards the close of the latter year, cannot be said to have been revived, as only a few bunches were shipped

during the year under review. The returns, however, for these few bunches were satisfactory, showing that if suitable arrangements were made for the carriage of the fruit, a remunerative banana industry could easily be established between this Colony and the Mother Country.

28. During the year a Committee entitled the Permanent Exhibition Committee was appointed to prepare exhibits for any Exhibitions at which it may be decided for Barbados to be represented, and exhibits of the principal products of the Colony were shown at the Toronto and Halifax Exhibitions, held in August and September, 1906. A handbook containing historical, agricultural, and general information concerning the Colony was forwarded along with the exhibits, for free distribution to visitors. All arrangements in Canada were, on behalf of the Colony, undertaken by Mr. C. S. Pickford, a representative of the firm of Messrs. Pickford & Black, of Halifax, and the thanks of the Colony are due to him for the efficient manner in which the exhibits were staged, and the West Indian Court, including Barbados, decorated. Not long before the exhibitions were held, the British Consul at Chicago applied to the Government for samples of the principal products of the Colony. The exhibits were, therefore, after the exhibitions were over, forwarded to that gentleman, and at the beginning of 1907 enquiries were received through him from merchants in Canada and the United States with reference to car loads of manjak, infusorial earth, crude petroleum, asphaltum oil, green tar, and liquid asphalt.

III.—LEGISLATION.

29. Thirty-three Acts were passed during the year 1906. The principal of these were :—

No. 1 of 1906.—To regulate the sale of cotton, and to protect the newly-established cotton industry by prohibiting the sale of cotton without a certificate, and imposing certain obligations on the planters. It was found necessary to pass two amending Acts—1906-15 and 1906-30.

No. 5 of 1906.—To consolidate and amend the Acts relating to the Court of Chancery.

No. 6 of 1906.—Granting a subsidy of £2,000 a year for ten years to the Barbados Light Railway.

No. 11 of 1906.—To continue in operation until the 31st August, 1907, the Plantations in Aid Acts.

No. 17 of 1906.—Exempts from duty kerosine oil to be used as fuel in oil and motor engines.

No. 22 of 1906.—To encourage the local manufacture of bay rum.

No. 23 of 1906.—Increases the rate of interest to be paid to savings bank depositors from 2½ per cent. to 2¾ per cent.

No. 28 of 1906.—Renders the Railway Company liable for damage by fire caused by its engines.

IV.—EDUCATION.

30. The total expenditure on education during the year 1906–7 was £16,863.

31. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, receives no legislative grant, but four Island Scholarships are annually awarded to the students at the College, each of the value of £40 a year, and tenable for two years. There are 15 students on its roll.

32. The statistics relating to the higher grade schools which receive grants from the Treasury are as follows:—

Name of School.	Government Grant.	Pupils' Fees, &c.	Number of Pupils on Roll.
BOYS.	£	£	
Harrison College	1,000	1,684	144
The Lodge School ...	500	655	57
Combermere School ...	300	804	133
The Coleridge School ...	100	152	26
The Alleyne School ...	100	39	17
The Parry School ...	100	123	20
GIRLS.			
Queen's College	400	926	97
The Alexandra School ...	125	257	39
Totals	2,625	4,640	533

33. The primary schools, which numbered 166, were established in connection with the following denominations:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.
				£
Church of England	131	20,042	11,523	8,088
Wesleyan	19	2,860	1,559	1,187
Moravian	16	2,276	1,268	955
Total... ...	166	25,178	14,350	10,230

V.—GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

HOSPITAL.

34. The General Hospital is not a Government institution in the usually accepted sense of the term, but it is under the management of a Court of Trustees and Directors, eighteen in number, appointed under the Act of 1890. 5,059 patients were treated in the hospital during the year, of whom 414 died, and 19,840 out-patients received relief. An improvement was effected during 1906 by the reservation of four beds for paying patients, a class for whom provision was not previously made in the hospital. The total expenditure on the institution in 1906 was £6,722.

PRISONS.

35. The daily average number of prisoners in Glendairy Prison during 1906 was 273—182 men and 91 women. These figures show a marked decrease on the statistics of 1905, which gave an average of 275 men and 128 women, and the Inspector of Prisons remarks that the male average was the lowest on record, while the female average was lower only in the years 1877 and 1881. There can be no doubt that these favourable conditions are chiefly due to the facilities for employment afforded, directly or indirectly, by the recruiting in the Colony of labourers for the Panama Canal Works. The expenditure on the institution was £5,034, less by £380 than that of the previous year, and represented an expenditure of £18 8*s*. 9*d*. per head. The actual proceeds of the prison labour were £19 6*s*. 8*d*., but the male prisoners are largely employed outside the prison walls on various public works, while the females also do the washing and cooking for the institution. The number of prisoners committed for penal imprisonment during 1906 was 2,290, being 149 less than the average of the previous five years. Against 1,397 of these previous convictions were recorded. The Chaplain of the prison reports that the discipline of the institution compares most favourably with that of twenty years ago. Corporal punishment and solitary confinement he states figured largely in those days, but now they are found to be few and far between.

36. There were 53 admissions during 1906 to the Government Industrial School for boys and 62 discharges, leaving the number remaining in the institution on the 31st of December, 1906, at 114. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the school was £1,845. The boys are chiefly employed on agricultural labour in the grounds attached to the institution, the principal produce being sugar and cotton, and the net value of the receipts was £1,240. The actual cost of the institution was, therefore, £605, equal to £5 2*s*. 6*d*. per head of the average number of inmates.

37. The question of the establishment of a Reformatory for girls, which has for some time been under consideration, has at last been settled, and the proposals only await the approval of the Legislature.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

38. Seventy-nine patients were committed to the Asylum during 1906. Thirty-two were discharged, and fifty-six died in the institution. The daily average number of inmates was 359—158 males and 201 females, which shows a decrease of 10 on the average number during 1905. The expenditure on the asylum in 1906 was £5,442, but against this must be set off the proceeds derived from the asylum farm, which amounted to £598 1*s.* 7*d.*

LAZARETTO.

39. Thirteen inmates were admitted during the year and 18 died, reducing the number in the institution at the close of the year to 126—63 of each sex. The cost of its maintenance in 1906 was £2,523. A scheme for effecting much needed improvements in the accommodation of the inmates has been prepared, and is now under the consideration of the Legislature. The estimated cost is £12,000.

POOR RELIEF.

40. The administration of the poor relief system is vested in the parochial authorities. In 1906-7 a sum of £17,927 was expended by them in the maintenance of the almshouses and other forms of poor relief.

SAVINGS BANK.

41. The number of depositors in the savings bank on the 31st of March last was 16,193, an increase of 885 in 12 months, and the amount standing to their credit £262,502, an increase of £17,687 in the same period. The rate of interest allowed on deposits was raised on the 1st of July, 1906, from 2½ per cent. to 2¾ per cent.

42. The number of friendly societies, which are extensively used by the people as repositories for their savings, had increased at the end of 1906 to 136, with £29,681 members and 64,013 dependents, making a total of 93,694 persons interested in such associations. The societies, which are under the inspection and control of a Registrar appointed by the Governor, make large use of the savings bank for the custody of their funds. At present the amount on which they are paid interest is limited to £300, but it is proposed to ask the Legislature to abolish this limit and to authorize the payment of interest on the entire sum standing to the credit of any society.

POST OFFICE.

43. The business of the Post Office Department continues steadily to increase. 1,502 mails were received from abroad during 1906, and 1,625 mails were despatched. The largest number were received from the following places :—

Brazil and Buenos Aires	142 mails.
Great Britain	101 „
United States	101 „
St. Lucia	87 „
British Guiana	84 „

In all 860,053 postal articles were received from abroad.

44. The number of postal articles despatched amounted to 773,993, and the largest number of mails went to the following places :—

United States	138 mails.
Trinidad	131 „
British Guiana	112 „
St. Lucia	96 „
Dominica	94 „
St. Kitts	85 „

45. The colony was served in the conveyance of mails by the under-mentioned lines of steamers :—

Royal Mail Steam Packet Co. (Southampton).
Harrison Line (Liverpool).
Leyland Line (Liverpool).
Scrutton's Direct Line (London).
Glasgow Line (Glasgow).
Armstrong Line (United States of America and West Indies).
Booth and Red Cross Line (United States of America and Brazil).
Quebec Steamship Co. (United States of America and Brazil).
Sloman Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).
Lamport and Holt (United States of America and Brazil).
Prince Line (United States of America and Brazil).
Lloyd Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).
Pickford and Black (Canada and West Indies).

46. The value of the money orders issued was £18,767, in addition to British postal orders to the value of £2,908. The money orders were chiefly drawn on the following places :—

	£
United Kingdom	9,001
United States	5,058
Trinidad	1,241
Canada	1,106
British Guiana	816

47. Money orders to the total amount of £41,870 were drawn upon the Colony during 1906, and British postal orders to the value of £4,978 were also paid. The larger part of the money orders were received from the following places :—

	£
United States...	16,666
Panama	7,509
Trinidad	4,177
British Guiana	3,184
United Kingdom	2,300
Grenada	2,141
Canada	1,539

The remittances by this channel from the United States show an increase of £5,479 over those of 1905. The amount (£7,509) remitted from Panama shows the result of five months working of the money order system with that place.

48. The revenue derived from the Post Office in 1906 was £8,593, and the expenditure of the department was £7,353.

VI.—CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

49. The number of offences reported to the police during 1906 was 16,606, a decrease of 570 as compared with 1905. For these offences 13,042 were brought before the Police Magistrates, the cases being dealt with as follows :—

Summary convictions	9,343
Cases dismissed on the merits	2,411
Discharged for want of evidence	1,233
Committed for trial at the Court of Grand Sessions...	55
	13,042

50. The number of persons summarily convicted by the Magistrates was less by 1,396 than in 1905. The following table will show that, except in the case of malicious injury to property, there has been a marked reduction in all classes of crime, while that of prædial larceny has been reduced by one-half. There can be no doubt that this is attributable to the improved conditions of the peasantry consequent on the emigration of labourers to Panama :—

Summary Convictions.	Year.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1905.	1906.		
Offences against Revenue, Highway, and Health Acts.	4,259	4,012	—	247
Offences against the person ...	3,077	2,959	—	118
Offences against property ...	1,561	1,097	—	464
Prædial larceny	1,120	577	—	543
Malicious injury to property ...	68	84	16	—
Other offences	654	614	—	40
Total	10,739	9,343	—	—

51. Sixty-nine cases were dealt with in the Supreme Court for the following offences :—

Manslaughter	2
Concealment of birth	1
Rape	5
Unnatural crime	1
Other offences against the person ...	9
Offences against property	49
Miscellaneous offences	2
	69

The decisions in which were as under :—

Judgment for the Crown...	47
Judgment for the prisoner	13
Cases not prosecuted	9
	69

52. The total number of convictions in all the Courts in each of the last five years has been—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
In the Supreme Court ...	117	94	56	70	47
In the Magistrates' Courts...	11,685	10,416	10,004	10,739	9,343
Total	11,802	10,510	10,060	10,809	9,390

The number of convictions in 1906 gives a percentage of 4·74 to the population.

53. The number of convictions under the head of prædial larceny during the last ten years has been as follows :—

Year.	Number of Convictions for prædial larceny.
1897	950
1898	1,120
1899	1,367
1900	1,461
1901	1,298
1902	1,128
1903	955
1904	838
1905	1,120
1906	577

VII.—VITAL STATISTICS.

54. The population of the Colony was estimated to consist, on the 31st December, 1906, of 196,287 souls—87,158 males and 109,129 females. This shows a reduction of 3,255 on the estimate of the previous year, the decrease being in part (3,000) due to emigration, and partly (255) to the excess of deaths over the births.

55. The births numbered 7,311, showing a decrease of 638 as compared with those of 1905, and giving a birth rate of 37·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population. Of these 3,682 were males and 3,629 females. The number of illegitimate births was 4,070, 55·6 per cent. of the total birth rate.

56. The deaths registered during the year numbered 7,566, exceeding the births by 255. The death rate, 38·5 per 1,000 of the estimated population, was abnormally high. This is reported by the Poor Law Inspector to be due to the existence during the hot season of a widespread epidemic of gastro-enteritis and diarrhœa amongst children, which was very fatal. Of the 7,566 deaths, 4,480 were those of children under the age of five years, and 3,071 those of infants under the age of one year.

57. Eight hundred and fifty-three marriages were registered during 1906. Of those married 352 males and 348 females were unable to sign their names.

VIII.—METEOROLOGICAL.

58. The average barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station for 1906, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea level, was, at 9 a.m., 29·956 inches, and at 3 p.m., 28·886 inches. The highest pressure recorded was at 9 a.m. on the 17th February, viz., 30·073 inches, and the lowest at 3 p.m. on 14th October, 29·692 inches. These records are very similar to those for the past ten years, *i.e.*, from 1897 to 1906 inclusive, when the average barometric pressure was, at 9 a.m., 29·962 inches and at 3 p.m 29·892 inches, and the highest average pressure at 9 a.m. was 30·024 inches and the lowest at 3 p.m., 29·819 inches.

59. The average maximum temperature for 1906 was 84·6° F., and the average minimum temperature 75·9° F., the maximum extreme 89·7° F., on the 27th May and 18th September, and the minimum extreme 62·8° F. on 25th January. The mean average temperature for the year was 80·2° F., and the average range 19·7° F. The average velocity of the wind for the year was 10·7 miles per hour. For the past ten years the average maximum temperature was 84·2° F., and the average minimum 75·8° F. The maximum extreme was 85·4° F., and the minimum

extreme 73·8° F. The mean average temperature for the ten years was 79·9° F., the average range 17·5° F. The average velocity of the wind 9·8 miles per hour.

60. The average rainfall for the year from 189 stations was 70·70 inches, as compared with 54·59 inches from 197 stations for the previous year, and with 62·48 inches from an average of 115 stations for the past sixty years, *i.e.*, 1847 to 1906 inclusive.

IX.—GENERAL REMARKS.

61. The railway, which had for some time ceased working, was acquired by the Barbados Light Railway Company, to whom a subsidy of £2,000 a year was by the Act No. 6 of 1906 guaranteed for ten years.

62. The plantations-in-aid scheme, under which the Imperial grant of £80,000 in aid of the sugar industry has been administered in the interests of the sugar plantations since the year 1902, has now come to an end, and its place has been taken by the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank, which is managed by seven directors, five appointed by the Legislature, and one by the Agricultural Society, the Colonial Secretary being *ex-officio* the chairman. The amount transferred to the bank at the commencement of its operations was £96,360 5*s*. 8*d*.

63. An attempt is being made to develop, or rather to explore, the oil resources of the island by an application of the Hon. A. C. Ponsonby for an Order under the Oil Mines Act of 1904. This Order requires the sanction of the Legislature, which will no doubt in due course be given, as it is very desirable in the interest of all that some measures should be taken to ascertain the actual value of this asset of the Colony.

64. The news of the terrible disaster which befel the Island of Jamaica in January last was received here with the deepest concern. A grant of £2,000 was made by the Legislature in aid of the sufferers, and at a public meeting subscription lists were opened by which a further sum of £704 18*s*. 9*d*. was contributed.

65. References have been made throughout this report to the effects resulting from the emigration of labourers to Panama under contract to work in the Canal zone. About 10,000 men have emigrated under contract, and probably some 2,000 more have gone independently, but a large majority of these have in due course returned to the Colony. This considerable exodus of labourers has naturally to some extent upset the previously existing conditions of labour here, but there can be but little doubt that in an island with such a superabundant population any temporary difficulties of this nature will in due course adjust

themselves. Meanwhile it is evident that the opportunity of employment on the Canal works afforded to the people has effected a marked improvement in the conditions of the peasantry of the island. Since the establishment in August, 1906, of a money order system with the Canal zone a sum of £35,575 has been remitted to the Colony by this means, and the sums now being sent by emigrants to their relatives and friends here amount to some £4,500 or £5,000 a month. The Harbour Master also reports that the 3,500 emigrants who returned to the Colony from Panama in 1906 brought with them sums amounting in the aggregate to £18,800.

66. Notwithstanding the high death-rate, to which attention has been previously called, the health of the island was good, and tourist and less transient visitors continued to arrive in large numbers throughout the year. If from the number of deaths is deducted the infantile mortality, for which there was special cause, and which was probably aggravated by, if not entirely due to, poverty and ignorance of hygienic principles among the lower orders, it will be seen that the death-rate of the rest of the population was only 15·6 per thousand. It is beyond dispute that Barbados, with its equable climate, its pure air and abundant water supply, its unfailing ocean breeze, and surrounded by the most beautiful of tropic seas, affords exceptional advantages as a health resort, and this fact is becoming from year to year more fully recognized by the residents in the neighbouring colonies and the adjacent continent.

S. W. KNAGGS,
Acting Governor.

Government House,
Barbados,
31st August, 1907.

APPENDIX A.

REVENUE.

Head.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	118,854	127,950	9,096	—
Port and Harbour Dues ...	3,060	3,253	193	—
Excise	27,062	28,127	1,065	—
Licences	4,019	4,086	67	—
Police Tax	3,724	3,760	36	—
Fees and Fines, &c.	5,307	4,538	—	769
Post Office	7,690	8,553	863	—
Water Works	10,295	11,705	1,410	—
Other Heads of Service ...	10,285	10,837	552	—
Imperial Grant in Aid of Agriculture.	1,995	1,895	—	100
Total	192,291	204,704	13,282	869

APPENDIX B.

EXPENDITURE.

Head.	1905-6.	1906-7.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Customs	9,077	13,646	4,569	—
Post Office	7,003	7,276	273	—
Legal	12,920	12,615	—	305
Police	22,149	22,229	80	—
Ecclesiastical	10,864	10,803	—	61
Education	17,439	16,863	—	576
Medical Departments ...	16,386	16,392	6	—
Volunteer Force	906	841	—	65
Water Works	26,350	26,314	—	36
Pensions	7,703	6,629	—	1,074
Subsidies, &c.	10,740	9,413	—	1,327
Public Works Recurrent ...	2,967	4,198	1,231	—
Other Heads	36,428	38,797	2,369	—
Total	180,932	186,016	8,528	3,444

APPENDIX C.

COMPARATIVE REVENUE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	21,811	22,746	26,569	23,707	22,707
Christ Church ...	2,639	2,836	4,392	4,525	4,717
St. Philip ...	3,934	3,796	5,374	4,862	5,275
St. George ...	2,562	2,595	3,813	3,819	3,843
St. John ...	2,244	2,266	3,125	3,052	3,301
St. Thomas ...	1,505	1,520	2,575	2,692	2,762
St. Joseph ...	1,356	1,376	2,363	2,346	2,241
St. Andrew ...	1,151	1,147	2,108	2,331	2,345
St. James ...	1,408	1,431	2,678	3,048	2,984
St. Lucy ...	2,011	1,883	2,671	2,623	3,080
St. Peter ...	1,951	1,892	2,807	2,704	3,147
Total ...	42,572	43,488	58,475	55,709	56,402

APPENDIX D.

COMPARATIVE EXPENDITURE OF VESTRIES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Parish.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
St. Michael ...	20,407	20,797	24,146	22,430	21,656
Christ Church ...	2,630	2,542	4,172	4,378	4,507
St. Philip ...	3,325	3,363	4,885	4,357	5,344
St. George ...	2,261	2,606	3,881	3,791	3,718
St. John ...	2,051	2,119	3,016	3,006	3,305
St. Thomas ...	1,490	1,437	2,527	2,684	2,476
St. Joseph ...	1,171	1,329	2,353	2,386	2,246
St. Andrew ...	1,122	1,179	2,260	2,211	2,428
St. James ...	1,405	1,421	2,664	2,715	3,038
St. Lucy ...	2,003	1,909	2,590	2,596	2,950
St. Peter ...	1,718	1,632	2,644	2,553	2,553
Total ...	39,583	40,334	55,138	53,107	54,221

APPENDIX [illegible].

TOTAL VALUE OF THE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

—	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imports	872,679	821,618	1,069,312	1,042,562	1,192,328
Exports (including Transit Trade.)	592,464	552,891	860,982	935,844	932,966
Total value of Trade.	1,465,143	1,374,509	1,930,294	1,978,406	2,125,294

APPENDIX F.

ARTICLES IMPORTED INTO BARBADOS AND RE-EXPORTED. COMPARING THE YEARS 1905 AND 1906.

Articles.	1905.	1906	Increase.	Decrease.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Arrowroot...	487,191	460,013	—	27,178
Bacon and Hams...	26,314	14,255	—	2,059
Beef, salted or pickled	363,815	506,550	142,735	—
Bran and Pollard...	103,475	149,919	45,444	—
Bread	31,978	22,785	—	9,193
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Bricks	6,000	3,000	—	3,000
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Butter	66,650	64,190	—	2,460
Oleomargarine and compounds...	31,121	45,339	14,218	—
Candles	4,185	6,865	2,680	—
Cocoa	580,574	45,750	—	534,824
Coffee	208,984	41,622	—	167,362
Copper and [illegible]ss, &c. (old) ...	103,596	171,380	—	67,784
Corn	666,123	696,811	35,688	—
Cotton	46,000	—	—	46,000
	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.	qtls.
Fish, dried, salted, or smoked ...	13,687	15,932	2,245	—
	brls.	brls.	brls.	brls.
Do., pickled	1,108	1,263	155	—
Flour, Wheat or Rye	16,487	14,695	—	1,792
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Grain, unenumerated	143,903	154,472	10,569	—
Hay and Straw	162,622	74,207	—	88,415
Lard	104,825	67,160	—	37,665

ARTICLES IMPORTED AND RE-EXPORTED—*cont.*

Articles.	1905.	1906.	Increase.	Decrease.
	hhds.	hhds.	hhds.	hhds.
Liquors, Malt, in wood	600	299	—	301
	doz. qts.	doz. qts.	doz. qts.	doz. qts.
" " in bottles... ...	8,671	13,869	5,198	—
	glns.	glns.	glns.	glns.
" Spirits	29,627	17,667	—	11,960
" Wines	1,802	8,910	7,108	—
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Manures	219	1,960	1,741	—
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Oats	354,691	346,713	—	7,978
Oilmeal and Oilcake	152,399	135,072	—	17,327
	glns.	glns.	glns.	glns.
Petroleum	165,030	39,074	—	125,956
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Pork, salted or pickled	199,234	158,493	—	40,741
Rice	1,954,359	1,646,510	—	307,849
Soap	738,091	676,492	—	61,599
Tobacco	41,692	22,569	—	19,123

APPENDIX G.

TABLE SHOWING IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO BRITISH NORTH AMERICA FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS, 1897 TO 1906.

Years.	Imports.	Exports.
	£	£
1897	108,835	86,159
1898	115,162	116,669
1899	79,243	110,865
1900	77,843	146,689
1901	80,434	135,765
1902	81,[illegible]86	122,273
1903	78,177	135,456
1904	75,749	249,000
1905	83,581	276,095
1906	91,904	290,784

APPENDIX H.

COMPARATIVE SHIPPING RETURN FOR THE YEARS 1905 AND 1906 (VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED).

Description.	1905.				1906.				Increase.				Decrease.			
	Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.		Number.		Tonnage.	
	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Steamers ...	835	51	1,498,814	75,012	831	54	1,533,029	85,742	—	3	34,215	10,730	4	—	—	—
Sailing Vessels	1,175	170	96,173	30,788	1,169	148	117,708	26,852	—	—	21,535	—	6	22	—	3,936
Total ...	2,010	221	1,594,987	105,800	2,000	202	1,650,737	112,594	—	3	55 750	10,730	10	22	—	3,936

COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF TOTAL SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED FROM 1902 TO 1906.

—	1902.		1903.		1904.		1905.		1906.	
	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.	Ships.	Tonnage.
Total entered and cleared ...	1,745	1,419,339	1,818	1,388,403	2,240	1,687,641	2,231	1,700,787	2,202	1,763,331

APPENDIX I.

ANALYSIS OF SHIPPING ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1905 AND 1906.

Nationality.	1905.		1906.		Increase.		Decrease.	
	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.	No.	Tonnage.
British	2,010	1,594,987	2,000	1,650,737	—	55,750	10	—
American	28	13,996	24	12,630	—	—	4	1,366
Dutch	105	7,625	102	12,698	—	5,073	3	—
Danish...	2	418	4	812	2	394	—	—
French	12	854	4	196	—	—	8	658
Italian	14	30,956	7	3,718	—	—	7	27,238
Venezuelan	5	492	2	90	—	—	3	402
Russian	4	1,292	2	522	—	—	2	770
Swedish	2	442	—	—	—	—	2	442
Norwegian	32	32,702	49	66,756	17	34,054	—	—
German	8	10,650	2	3,828	—	—	6	6,822
Belgian	2	5,300	4	10,952	2	5,652	—	—
Portuguese	7	1,073	2	392	—	—	5	681
Totals	2,231	1,700,787	2,202	1,763,331	21	100,923	50	38,379

APPENDIX J.

SUGAR AND MOLASSES CROPS AND THEIR VALUES (PACKAGE INCLUDED) FROM 1897–1906.

Year.	Articles.	Quantity and Value.				Total Value.	
		Hhds.	£	s.	d.	£	£
1897 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	56,397 at	7	10	0	422,977	533,524
	„ Dry	2,203 „	11	2	0	24,453	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	37,432 „	2	6	0	86,094	
		Hhds.					
1898 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	52,009 „	8	0	0	416,072	527,280
	„ Dry	1,566 „	12	0	0	18,792	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	34,123 „	2	14	2	92,416	
		Hhds.					
1899 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	43,907 „	10	0	0	439,070	583,002
	„ Dry	2,312 „	15	0	0	34,680	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	29,134 „	3	15	0	109,252	
		Hhds.					
1900 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	48,583 „	10	0	0	485,730	658,642
	„ Dry	1,998 „	12	0	0	23,976	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	37,234 „	4	0	0	148,936	
		Hhds.					
1901 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	61,074 „	8	10	0	519,129	708,277
	„ Dry	3,936 „	11	10	0	45,264	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	46,043 „	3	2	6	143,884	
		Hhds.					
1902 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	50,406 „	5	15	0	289,834	421,329
	„ Dry	1,681 „	7	0	0	11,767	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	42,760 „	2	16	0	119,728	
		Hhds.					
1903 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	35,170 „	6	12	0	232,122	396,294
	„ Dry	3,453 „	8	0	0	27,624	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	30,344 „	4	10	0	136,548	
		Hhds.					
1904 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	61,079 „	6	16	0	415,337	584,403
	„ Dry	2,525 „	9	17	0	24,871	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	45,061 „	3	4	0	144,193	
		Hhds.					
1905 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	45,469 „	9	10	0	431,955	628,696
	„ Dry	1,628 „	12	0	0	19,536	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	39,379 „	4	10	0	177,205	
		Hhds.					
1906 ...	Sugar, Muscovado ...	55,879 „	6	0	0	335,274	566,039
	„ Dry	1,984 „	8	0	0	15,872	
		Puns.					
	Molasses	61,398 „	3	10	0	214,893	

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

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No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
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518	Leeward Islands	"
519	East Africa Protectorate...	"
520	Seychelles	1906
521	Hong Kong	"
522	Falkland Islands	"
523	Ashanti	"
524	Jamaica	1905–1906
525	Uganda	"
526	St. Helena	1906
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528	Bermuda	"
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532	Colonial Survey Committee	1906–1907
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540	Straits Settlements	1906
541	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
542	Somaliland Protectorate...	1906–1907
543	Bahamas	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony.	Subject.
35	Antigua and St. Kitts-Nevis	Sugar.
36	West Indies	Work of Imperial Department of Agriculture.
37	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1904–5.
38	St. Helena	Agriculture.
39	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
40	Northern Nigeria	Taxation of Natives.
41	East Africa Protectorate ...	Report on Kenia Forests.
42	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.

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1907.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 585.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1907-8.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 544.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1908.

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No. 585.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1906-7, *see* No. 544.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Barbados,
1st October, 1908.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith six copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1907-8 together with my report thereon.

I have, &c.,

BASIL BLACKWOOD,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

1125 Wt 25928 11/08 D & S 5 34067

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR 1907-1908.

FINANCIAL.

1. The revenue for the year 1907-8 was £209,817 and the expenditure was £188,296, giving a surplus of £21,521. The Treasury balance at the close of the financial year was thus brought up to £58,165.

2. The revenue for the year 1907-8 exceeded the revenue for the previous financial year by £5,114, while the expenditure of the former year exceeded the expenditure of the latter year by £2,281, giving a net increase of revenue over expenditure, as compared with the previous year, of £2,833.

3. The following table shows the revenue for the last five years as compared with the expenditure:—

	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
1903-4	185,353	221,801*
1904-5	185,056	183,297
1905-6	192,291	180,932
1906-7	204,704	186,016
1907-8	209,817	188,296

4. The principal increases in 1907-8, as compared with 1906-7, occurred under the following heads:—

	Increase. £
Customs	1,771
Excise	2,166
Waterworks	829

5. The total revenue derived from Customs receipts in the year 1907 was £129,722. The increase shown above is to some extent deceptive, owing to the fact that the amount repaid in drawbacks during the year 1907 exceeded by £2,464 the amount paid out under this head in the preceding year.

The net receipts for the two years were:—

	£
1906	118,590
1907	117,995

which shows a decrease on the net Customs revenue of £595. This decrease is due to the fact that the additional duty of 20 per cent. which was collected during the whole of the year

---

* Of this amount £39,492 represents the balance with interest of the Imperial Free Grant of £80,000 in aid of the sugar industry.

1906 was reduced by one-half after the first quarter of 1907, and partly due to the fact that duties to the value of £1,000 payable in 1907 were not paid until after March, 1908, and consequently do not appear in the accounts for the former year.

6. The continued improvement in the Customs revenue is mainly attributable, as in the preceding year, to increased receipts from import duties. The improvement of the revenue derived from excise is remarkable, and I am glad to say has not been accompanied by any corresponding increase in the statistics of crime.

7. The increase under both the above heads is mainly due to the large sums of money transmitted fortnightly to Barbados by labourers recruited in this Colony for service on the Panama Canal Works. Statistics dealing with this important factor will be given below.

8. The improvement in the receipts of the Water Department is principally due to the sale of water to the shipping.

The following table shows that the facilities offered, the excellence of the supply, and the moderate price charged, have had good practical results:—

	Revenue from sale of Water. £
1903-4	2,885
1904-5	2,527
1905-6	2,899
1906-7	3,753
1907-8	4,368

9. The revenue of the 11 parishes, including the Legislative grant of £5,450 for road purposes, was £60,171, and the expenditure was £55,624.

10. The 20 per cent. additional duty which had been imposed on the 21st October, 1902, was reduced to 10 per cent. as from April the 1st, 1907, but no innovation affecting the general system of taxation was introduced.

EXPENDITURE.

11. The principal excesses of expenditure during 1907-8, as compared with the previous financial year, occurred under the following heads:—

	Increases on the figures of 1906-7 £
Customs	2,466
Subsidies and Grants	2,436
Waterworks	1,277

The excess shown under the head "Customs" represents the sums refunded as drawbacks, and was paid principally in respect of coal.

The excess under "Subsidies and Grants" has been occasioned by the payment of the sum due to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company under their contract which came into operation on the 29th August, 1907.

The excess under "Waterworks" is due to the investment of £1,050 for the Launch Renewal Fund and £300 for building in connection with the water supply.

12. At the close of the financial year the public debt of the Colony stood at £404,900, but the sinking fund accumulations stood at £60,153, and there was an unexpended balance of £24,153 from the loan negotiated in 1895 for water-works construction. After due allowance is made in respect of these balances the public debt stands at £319,909.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

13. The value of the imports during the year 1907 was £1,271,529, and the value of the exports was £935,255, giving an excess of imports over exports to the value of £336,274.

14. The following is a comparative table for the last two years showing the countries from which imports chiefly came, with the value of the respective importations:—

Countries.	1906. £	1907. £
United Kingdom	482,116	558,148
United States	404,334	460,725
Canada	86,673	101,943
British West Indies	84,792	58,237
British Guiana	35,779	46,002
East Indies	33,546	1,232
Foreign West Indies... ...	15,016	8,917
France	12,347	53
Brazil	3,762	16,035
Newfoundland	5,232	9,355
Other places	28,731	10,582
	£1,192,328	£1,271,529

15. It will be seen that:—

44 per cent. of imports came from United Kingdom.
36 " " " " United States.
8¾ " " " " Canada.
9 " " " " West Indies.
2¼ " " " " Other places.

16. The total value of the export trade was less by £15,579 than its value in the previous year. The decrease is made up as follows:—

	Increase.	Decrease
	£	£
Sugar	—	90,736
Molasses	18,027	—
Cotton, raw	57,356	—
Rum	—	14
Minor Products	—	212
	£75,383	£90,962
		75,383
		£15,579

17. The heavy decrease in the value of exports is partly due to the short sugar crop consequent on a poor rainfall and partly due to the increased manufacture of fancy syrups, included under the head "molasses." The conversion of sugar into molasses led to a considerable increase under the latter head.

18. The principal change indicated by the above figures is an increase of trade with Canada, as compared with the United States of America. This improvement is due to the fact that Canada now offers the best market to Barbados sugar.

19. The following table in which the figures for 1906 are contrasted with the figures for 1907 illustrates the change in question:—

Total value of imports from—	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Canada	86,673	101,943
United States	404,334	460,725
Total value of exports of Barbados products to—		
Canada	243,224	318,671
United States	149,586	50,107

20. It will be seen that imports from Canada increased during the year 1907 by 17½ per cent., while imports from the United States increased during the same period by 13½ per cent.

Exports to Canada increased by 31 per cent.
Exports to United States decreased by 66½ per cent.

21. The following table gives the value of articles imported from Canada and contrasts the figures with those of the previous year, distinguishing between the articles which show an increase from those which show a decrease:—

Articles which show an increase.

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Butter	1,071	1,630
Cheese	1,088	1,372
Fish (salted or pickled) ...	17,487	20,643
Flour	4,302	7,179
Grain	1,473	3,445
Oats	1	2,243
Lumber (white pine) ...	16,792	27,630
Shingles	6,182	9,136
Iron nails	232	1,092
Joiners' work	59	756

Articles which show a decrease.

	1906.	1907.
	£	£
Beef and Pork	1,091	766
Pitch Pine Lumber ...	3,763	—
Hay	1,689	682
Sulphate of Ammonia ...	23,352	17,709
Staves	1,856	1,276

22. It must be noted, however, that an appreciable quantity of Canadian goods were in all probability imported viâ New York, and have figured in the returns as being of American origin. This is likely to be the case with oats, though in 1906 only 300 lbs. were imported from Canada direct. An effort is now being made to ensure that the true country of origin is declared on the import entry.

23. The staple products of the Island for 1907 were estimated to value £576,756 or £15,369 less than in the previous year. This diminution occurred in spite of the great increase in the production of raw cotton which nearly doubled the production of 1906, and which was more than treble its value.

The figures for the two years are as follows:—

—	1906.		1907.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Hogsheads.	£	Hogsheads.	£
Sugar (dry)	1,984	15,872	2,482	22,338
„ muscovado ...	55,879	335,274	35,270	238,072
	Puns.		Puns.	
Molasses	61,398	214,893	62,112	232,920
	Gallons.		Gallons.	
Rum	1,037	78	854	64
	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Cotton (raw)	488,473	26,006	947,140	83,362
Total	—	592,123	—	576,756

24. The following table illustrates the extent to which Canada has replaced the United States of America as the market for Barbados sugar:—

—	1907.		1906.	
	Hogsheads.	Values.	Hogsheads.	Values.
		£		£
United States of America	2,465	16,639	20,116	121,096
Canada	23,553	164,293	16,118	99,890

25. 62,112 puncheons of molasses were exported, of the value of £232,920. Of this quantity 54,720 puncheons, value £205,200, were exported to British North America, as against 6,602 puncheons, of the value of £24,758, exported to the United States of America.

26. There are no substantial fluctuations to be noted in connection with the minor products.

27. The transit trade, which is one of considerable importance, continues to develop. The following table shows its growth during the last five years:—

Value during—	£
1903	133,051
1904	233,304
1905	239,015
1906	303,647
1907	321,515

SHIPPING.

28. The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships that entered the port of Bridgetown during 1907:—

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
453	812,209	682	57,848	1,135	870,057

Compared with the previous year 35 more ships entered the port in 1907, though their aggregate tonnage was less by 11,471.

29. The nationality of the ships entering the port was as follows:—

	Number.	Tonnage.
British	1,016	788,509
Norwegian	31	34,032
Danish	13	20,716
Dutch	46	3,388
Others	29	23,412
	1,135	870,057

30. The coaling business of the port continues to increase, as will be seen by the following figures:—

Year.	Number of Steamers coaled.	Number of Tons taken.
1903	73	12,000
1904	96	16,000
1905	121	20,000
1906	228	46,692
1907	306	70,531

EXCISE.

31. The duty collected on rum during 1907 was £29,659. The amount collected during that year for licences amounted to £423, thus bringing the receipts from rum made in the Island to a total of £30,082. In 1906, duty and licences taken together amounted to £28,091.

The rate of duty is 3*s*. per proof gallon, while the licence is fixed at a half-penny per gallon of rum sold.

32. In April, 1907, an additional duty, imposed on imported spirits, was reduced by half, while the duty on rum locally made remained the same. The reduction of duty on the imported spirits does not seem, however, to have acted unfavourably on the local manufacture.

AGRICULTURE.

33. The sugar crop of the Island for the year 1907 was 35,270 hogsheads of muscovado, 2,482 hogsheads of vacuum-pan crystals and 62,112 puncheons of molasses, of the total value of £493,330. This was less than the previous year by 20,111 hogsheads of sugar and more than the previous year by 714 puncheons of molasses, and the value of this crop showed a decrease of £72,708 under that of 1906. The crop of sugar and its by-product, molasses, was apparently less than the average for the past sixty years, which is 49,950 hogsheads, by 12,198 hogsheads: but this comparison is fallacious under the present circumstances, as a considerable quantity of the juice of the sugar cane instead of being manufactured into

sugar with molasses as a by-product, was manufactured directly into "fancy" molasses: the result being that the exports of the molasses were increased at the expense of the muscovado sugar. As separate accounts are not kept in the shipment of ordinary or "choice" molasses and "fancy" molasses it is impossible to give more than a very rough estimate of the crop expressed in terms of previous returns, when molasses was solely a by-product. Such an approximate estimate gives the crop as equivalent to 45,500 hogsheads of sugar and 40,700 puncheons of ordinary ("choice") molasses, and shows a decrease as regards sugar on the average of the past sixty years of 4,450 hogsheads. Under the preferential treatment accorded by Canada to British Colonies, the exports of sugar to the Dominion continued to increase in quantity and value, and those to the United States of America to diminish. Thus while the exports of sugar to Canada in 1906 amounted to 16,118 hogsheads of the value £99,890, in 1907 they amounted to 23,553 hogsheads of the value of £164,293: and while the exports of sugar to the United States in 1906 amounted to 20,116 hogsheads of the value £121,096, those in 1907 diminished to 2,465 hogsheads of the value £16,639, showing the rapidly growing importance of the Canadian market over that of the United States. The sugar exports to Great Britain in 1906 amounted to 20,465 hogsheads of the value £123,176, those in 1907 to 9,872 hogsheads of the value £66,910.

34. The rainfall in December, 1906, and January, 1907, was sufficient to secure a satisfactory stand of young sugar canes: during February to May it was small, and the canes made no progress in these months. The rainy season set in in June, but, with exception of October, at no time during the year were the rainfall conditions satisfactory, and in November a drought set in which lasted to the end of the reaping season. The crop for 1908 is expected to amount to 29,275 hogsheads of sugar and 50,000 puncheons of molasses (ordinary "choice" and "fancy"); that is 5,995 hogsheads of sugar less, and 12,112 puncheons of molasses less than the previous year. This falling off of the crop is due partly to a diminished amount and less favourable distribution of the rainfall, and partly to the increased area of land planted in cotton. The sugar crop of 1908, however, has practically all been sold at prices some 30 per cent. in advance of those of 1907: and this result will tend to neutraise the effect of the diminution in the crop.

35. The area planted in cotton in 1907 was 6,935 acres, which is estimated to yield 1,387,000 lbs. of lint, valued at £104,025.

The average price for the season 1906-7 varied from 20 pence to 26 pence per pound: the price for the season 1907-8 has varied from 13 pence to 20 pence. It is estimated that the area planted for the season 1908-9 amounts, at present, to 3,670 acres, a decrease of area closely associated with the fall in prices.

The work of the Imperial Department of Agriculture continues to be of great value to the Colony. The West Indian Agricultural Conference, which was held in Bridgetown in January, 1908, was attended by delegates from all parts of the West Indies, and a number of valuable papers were read. During 1907 and 1908 conferences were held between the department and cotton growers, which have done much to insure the success of this industry. The local Department of Agriculture, working under the direction of the Imperial Department, have issued useful reports in connection with the agricultural research carried on by them during the period under review.

LEGISLATION.

36. Fifty Acts were passed through the Legislature in 1907. The following are the principal:—

No. 3 of 1907.—An Act for the regulation of the burning of human remains, and to enable burial authorities to establish crematoria.

This Act has been amended by the Cremation (Amendment) Act, 1907.

No. 7 of 1907.—An Act to establish a Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank in the Island. Under this Act a sum of £98,000, being the share that fell to Barbados of the Imperial Free Grant together with the accrued interest, was transferred to the Bank established by this Act for the purpose of continuing the system of making advances to sugar producers, which had been in force from 1902-1906 under the Plantations-in-Aid Act.

No. 9 of 1907.—An Act to make further provision for giving effect to the recommendations made by a conference held with regard to Quarantine in the West Indies. By this Act a Central Quarantine Authority for the West Indian Colonies adhering to the West Indian Intercolonial Sanitary Convention of 1904 was created. The Authority has the power to interpret the meaning of phrases and to decide whether any disease occurring in territory of any one of the Colonies parties to the Convention, as to the nature of which there may be a conflict of opinion, is an infectious disease within the scope of the Convention.

No. 15 of 1907.—An Act to impose additional duties of Customs in aid of revenue. This Act imposed for the period of one year, from April 1st, 1907, to March 31st, 1908, a surtax of one-tenth of the Customs duties and repealed the Revenue-in-Aid Act 1902, which imposed a surtax of one-fifth of the said duties.

No. 25 of 1907.—An Act to consolidate and amend the law relating to lunatics.

EDUCATION.

37. The total expenditure on education during the year 1907-8 was £17,117.

38. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, receives no legislative grant, but four Island scholarships are annually awarded to the students at the college, each of the value of £40 a year, and tenable for two years. There are 18 students on its roll.

39. The statistics relating to the higher grade schools which receive grants from the Treasury are as follows:—

Name of School.	Government Grant.	Pupils' Fees, &c.	Number of Pupils on Roll.
Boys.	£	£	
Harrison College	1,000	2,058	165
The Lodge School	500	722	53
Combermere School	300	886	130
The Coleridge School	100	164	25
The Alleyne School	100	75	12
The Parry School...	100	112	13
The Christ Church Foundation School.	Nil	134	49
Girls.			
Queen's College	400	763	84
The Alexandra School	125	253	37
Total	2,625	5,167	568

The primary schools, which numbered 164, were established in connection with the following denominations:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.
Church of England	130	20,696	12,281	8,185
Wesleyan	18	2,972	1,676	1,180
Moravian	16	2,271	1,329	948
Total	164	25,939	15,286	10,313

40. Any report on the educational system of the Island would be incomplete without a reference to what is termed the Barbados Scholarship.

In order to further develop the high educational interests of the Island, and to encourage young persons who may show promise in the prosecution of their studies, by enabling them to complete their studies at an institution for higher education in Europe or America, four scholarships called the Barbados Scholarships, each of the annual value of one hundred and seventy-five pounds—one to be competed for annually—have been established by the Legislature. The scholarship is tenable during membership of the Institution for a period not exceeding four years at any university or college in Europe or Canada, or at any Agricultural or Technical College in Europe or America that may be approved by the Education Board.

A boy in each year is thus enabled, therefore, by winning exhibitions to pass from an elementary to a second grade and thence to a first grade school and to close his educational career at an University.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

Hospital.

41. There is only one hospital in Barbados. It is situated in Bridgetown, and is supported exclusively by the Government. It is not directly under Government control, but is governed by a court of trustees and directors, of which the composition is as follows:—

6 Ex-Officio Members.
3 Members of the Legislative Council, nominated by the President of the Council.
7 Members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Speaker.
2 Life Members.
—
18 Total.
—

The Court of Directors delegate the ordinary management of the hospital to a house committee of 12 members. 4,489 persons were treated in the hospital during the year, of whom 355 died. 21,906 out-patients were treated during the same period.

The total expenditure on the institution during the year 1907 was £7,082 10s.

Prisons.

42. The daily average number of prisoners in Glendairy Prison during 1907 was 217—137 men and 80 women. These figures show a decrease on the statistics of 1906, which gave an average of 182 men and 91 women. These favourable conditions are largely attributable to the absence on steady employment of 17,000 men now engaged on the Panama Canal Works.

The expenditure on the institution was £4,572, less by £317 than that of the previous year, and represented an expenditure of £20 8*s.* 0¼*d.* per head. The number of prisoners committed for penal imprisonment during 1907 was 1,874, being 416 less than in 1906. Against 1,115 of these previous convictions were recorded. The discipline of the prison has been good.

43. There were 42 admissions during 1907 to the Government Industrial School for boys, and 31 discharges, leaving the number remaining in the institution on the 31st of December, 1907, at 125. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the school was £1,792 4*s.* 3*d.* The boys are chiefly employed on agricultural labour in the grounds attached to the institution, the principal produce being sugar and cotton, and the net value of the receipts was £1,118. The actual cost of the institution was, therefore, £674, equal to £5 12*s.* 4*d.* per head of the average number of inmates.

44. The question of the establishment of a reformatory for girls has not yet been finally dealt with, as the site proposed by the Government did not meet with the approval of the Legislature.

LUNATIC ASYLUM.

45. At the beginning of 1907, 361 inmates were in residence. During the year, 79 additional patients were admitted: 14 were discharged as cured, 3 as relieved, while 53 patients died. The daily average number of lunatics was 359. The expenditure on the asylum was £5,384 1*s.* 7*d.*, but against this must be set the net profits derived from the asylum farm, which amounted to £352.

LAZARETTO.

46. At the beginning of 1907, 126 inmates were in residence, 63 of each sex. During 1907, 14 patients were admitted. Twenty patients died during the year, 10 of each sex.

Of the above total, 55 patients suffered from anæsthetic leprosy, while 58 were tuberculous. It has not been the practice to discharge patients because the disease is arrested. Two patients escaped to neighbouring colonies during the year, but one was repatriated and re-confined. As lepers are not compulsorily segregated unless they come on the rates, the above figures do not give an exact idea of the prevalence of the disease in the Island. Once in the lazaretto no leper can leave except by order of the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

POOR RELIEF.

47. The parochial authorities control poor relief. Each parish maintains an almshouse and a medical officer. A total sum of £17,561 was expended during the year 1907-8 on this service.

THE SAVINGS BANK.

48. The popularity of the savings bank continues to increase. On March 31st, 1908, there were 17,793 depositors on the books, an increase of 1,600 on the previous year. The total amount standing to the credit of the depositors was £292,900, being an increase of £30,398 on the figures 1906-7. The rate of interest is 2¾ per cent. There were 213 Friendly Societies registered on March 31st, 1908. During the year 1907 there were 193 Friendly Societies on the register, only one of which has had an existence of more than 20 years. Of these 193 societies two were moribund, consequently only 191 societies are dealt with in the following paragraph.

These societies had on their registers 38,940 members and 99,787 dependants, or a grand total of 138,727, some dependent on their funds for sickness and for all of whose burials they were responsible. These figures show an increase on the previous year of 15,033 members and dependants inclusive.

49. In 1907, the members and dependants of the 191 societies were nearly 70 per cent. of the estimated population. For 1906 the percentage was 47·7. This tendency towards the reckless increase of dependants on the funds of the Friendly Societies requires to be closely watched.

POST OFFICE.

50. During 1907, 1,445 mails were received from abroad, and 1,423 mails were despatched. The largest number were received from the following places:—

Brazil and Buenos Ayres ...	157
Great Britain	100
United States of America ...	123
Saint Lucia	87
British Guiana	84

51. A total of 943,046 postal articles were received from abroad, while 912,265 postal articles were despatched.

52. The following table shows the destination of the larger number of mails:—

United States of America ...	131
Trinidad	117
British Guiana	114
Saint Lucia	101
Dominica	90
Antigua	77

The following lines carried mails during the year:—

Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (Southampton).
Harrison Line (Liverpool).
Leyland Line (Liverpool).
Scrutton's Direct Line (London).

Glasgow Line (Glasgow).
Armstrong Line (United States of America and West Indies).
Booth and Red Cross Line (United States of America and Brazil).
Quebec Steamship Company (United States of America and West Indies).
Hamburg-American and Sloman Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).
Lamport and Holt (United States of America and Brazil).
Lloyd Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).
Pickford and Black (Canada and West Indies).
East Asiatic (Europe and West Indies).

Money orders were issued to the value of £20,428, while British postal orders were issued to the value of £3,368. Money Orders to the total value of £84,924 were drawn upon the Colony in 1907, and British postal orders to the value of £5,012 were also paid.

The revenue derived from the Post Office in 1907 was £8,468, and the expenditure £6,876.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

53. A study of the statistics of crime for 1907 gives satisfactory results. The improvement shown is due in some measures to the better condition of the working classes, owing to the circulation of money earned in Panama, and also, it may be supposed, to the absence of many individuals who, unless they had found scope for their energies on the canal works, might, perhaps, have drifted into crime.

54. Eight thousand eight hundred and thirty-six persons were convicted and punished summarily during the year 1907, and thirty-three persons were convicted and punished on indictment. These figures give a percentage of 4·47 of the estimated population convicted of crime. The percentage is satisfactory if regard is to be had to the fact that a very large number of convictions are in respect of trivial offences, such, for instance, as using bad language or quarrelling on the highway, which, though requiring firm repression, are morally of only minor significance.

55. The absence of serious crime is marked. One offence, however, appears to be becoming more prevalent, and that is the wilful destruction of growing canes by fire. It is very difficult to discover the perpetrators of these offences since, owing to the inflammable nature of the crop at certain seasons, it is easily set fire to, while the large area under canes makes

it almost impossible to exercise adequate surveillance, especially by night. A reward of £50 is almost invariably offered for information leading to a conviction, but such information is never forthcoming.

56. During 1907 there were 66 cases of cane fires and only one conviction, a man practically caught red-handed, who was subsequently sentenced to ten years' penal servitude.

VITAL STATISTICS.

57. The estimated population on December the 31st, 1906, was 194,518, but the figures upon which this estimate is based are not reliable. No census has been taken since 1891, and no record is kept of persons migrating.

58. During 1907 the birth-rate was 33·2 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 37·2 for 1906 and 39·8 for 1905. The percentage of illegitimate births continues to be a high one, being 56·9 per cent. of the births recorded.

59. The burials registered numbered 5,236, which is less by 2,330 than in the previous year. The death-rate per 1,000 was 26·9. A regrettable feature of the vital statistics of this Colony is the high infantile mortality, although a slight improvement is shown on the figures of the preceding year. The death-rate of children of one year old and under was 302 per 1,000. This heavy mortality seems to be due to improper feeding of infants, for which ignorance is partly responsible and partly circumstances of deeper origin. The matter has been under careful consideration, and it is to be hoped that the circulation of carefully prepared instructions as to the proper treatment of infants will do something to mitigate the evil pending more radical measures.

METEOROLOGICAL.

60. The average barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station for 1907, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea-level, was at 9 a.m., 29·958 inches, and at 3 p.m., 29·891 inches. The highest pressure recorded was at 9 a.m. on January the 18th, viz., 30·071 inches, and the lowest at 3 p.m. on October the 18th, 29·763 inches. These records are very similar to those for the ten years, 1897 to 1906, when the average barometric pressure was, at 9 a.m., 29·962 inches, and at 3 p.m., 29·892 inches, and the highest average pressure at 9 a.m. was 30·024 inches, and the lowest at 3 p.m., 29·819.

61. The average maximum temperature for 1907 was 84·2 F., and the average minimum temperature 75·9 F., the maximum extreme 88·9 F., on June the 7th, and the minimum extreme 61·4 F., on January the 30th. The mean average temperature for the year was 80·0 F., and the average range 19·5 F. The average velocity of the wind for the year was 11·1 miles per hour. For the ten years 1897 to 1906 inclusive the average maximum temperature was 84·2 F., and the average minimum 75·8 F. The maximum extreme was 85·4 F., and the minimum extreme was 78·8 F. The mean average temperature for the ten years was 79·9 F., the average range 17·5 F., and the average velocity of the wind 9·8 miles per hour.

62. The average rainfall for the year from 178 stations was 47·68 inches, as compared with 70·70 inches from 189 stations for the previous year, and with 62·47 inches from an average of 117 stations for the past sixty years, i.e., 1848 to 1907 inclusive.

GENERAL REMARKS.

63. Reference has been made above to the favourable influence which the development of an ample field for labour within easy reach of Barbados has had upon the Revenue. Up to March 31st, 1908, 16,000 labourers had left this Island for the Panama Canal Works, and the importance, social and economic, of this exodus has been considerable. Any sudden interruption of this outlet such as might be caused by the quarantining of Barbados by the canal zone authorities would soon be felt.

64. Not only are considerable sums transmitted fortnightly through the Post Office, but the returning labourers bring with them large amounts of ready money, which is freely spent in the Island.

65. The following figures show the sums brought home in cash by returning emigrants from Panama during 1907:—

	£
1906	18,000
1907	26,291

66. The following figures show the amounts of money orders received from the canal zone and paid at Barbados during the same period:—

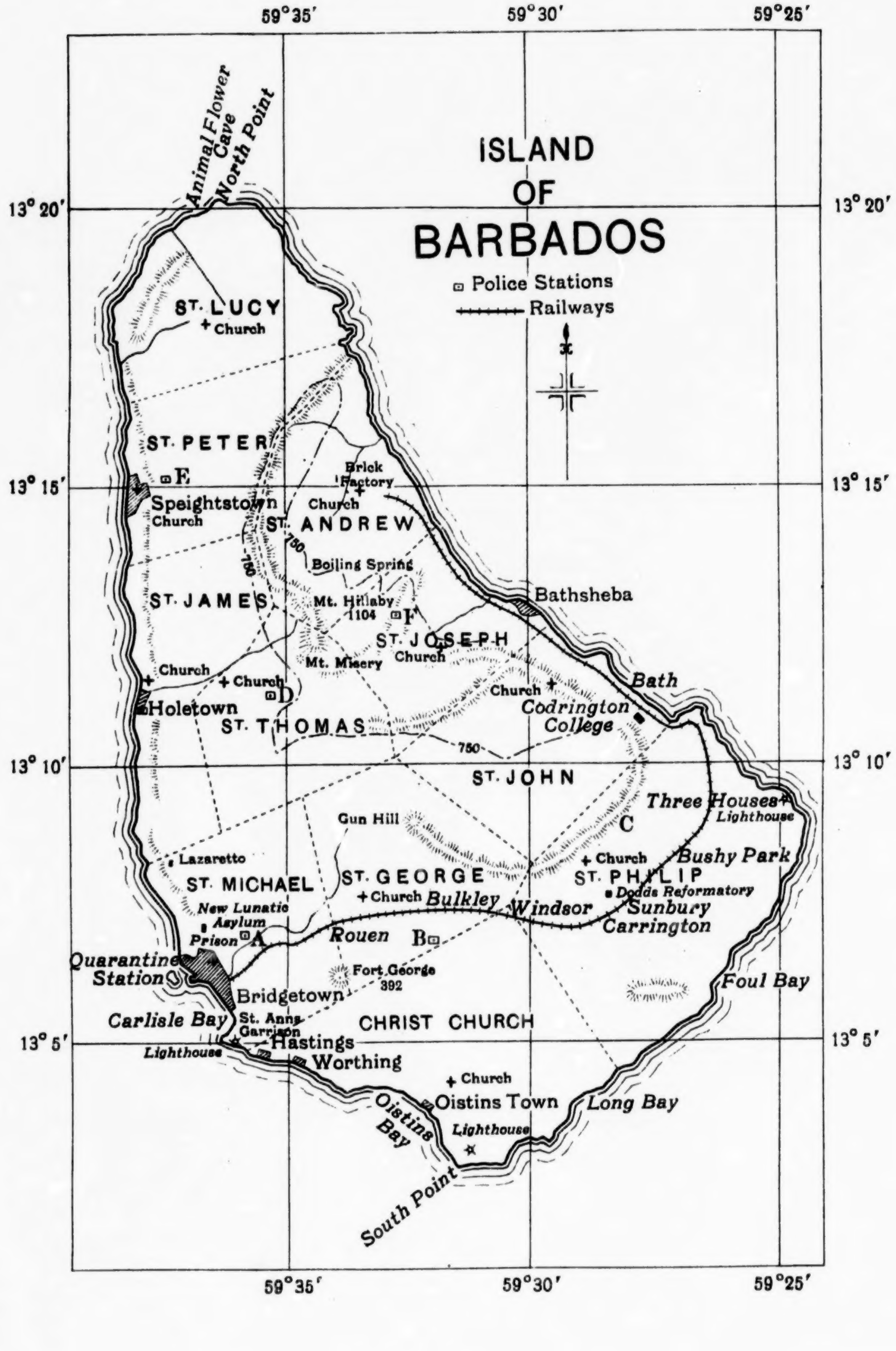
	£
1906	7,508
1907	36,889

67. Towards the latter part of 1907 and the beginning of 1908 a few cases of yellow fever were reported, but these were of a somewhat abnormal type, and consequently there was some difference of opinion among medical men as to the correctness of the diagnosis. The health of the Island was otherwise excellent, and it is satisfactory to note that no visitors to the Island were among the victims.

68. The tourist traffic was not quite as large during the year under review as in some previous years. A movement was recently set on foot by private enterprise to develop the social attractions for visitors, and, as a result of a public meeting held in this connection, an application was made to the Government for financial support to a scheme which was submitted. After consideration, however, the Government were of opinion that until increased hotel accommodation was provided it would be premature to exploit the great natural advantages of the Island as a tourist and health resort.

BASIL BLACKWOOD,
Acting Governor.

Government House,
1st October, 1908.


ISLAND OF BARBADOS
▣ Police Stations
┼┼┼┼ Railways
59°35′
59°30′
59°25′
13°20′
13°15′
13°10′
13°5′
Animal Flower Cave
North Point
ST. LUCY
Church
ST. PETER
E
Speightstown
Church
Brick Factory
Church
ST. ANDREW
750
700
Boiling Spring
ST. JAMES
Mt. Hillaby 1104
F
Bathsheba
ST. JOSEPH
Church
Mt. Misery
Church
Church
D
Holetown
ST. THOMAS
Church
Codrington College
Bath
750
ST. JOHN
Three Houses
Lighthouse
Gun Hill
C
Lazaretto
Church
Bushy Park
ST. MICHAEL
ST. GEORGE
ST. PHILIP
Church
Bulkley
Windsor
Dodds Reformatory
Sunbury
Carrington
New Lunatic Asylum
Prison
A
Rouen
B
Quarantine Station
Fort George 392
Bridgetown
Foul Bay
Carlisle Bay
St. Anns Garrison
CHRIST CHURCH
Hastings
Lighthouse
Worthing
Church
Oistins Town
Long Bay
Oistins Bay
Lighthouse
South Point

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
553	St. Lucia	1906–1907
554	Southern Nigeria	1906
555	St. Vincent	1906–1907
556	Basutoland	"
557	East Africa Protectorate	"
558	Uganda Protectorate	"
559	Swaziland	"
560	St. Helena	1907
561	Ceylon	"
562	Falkland Islands	"
563	Gibraltar	"
564	Ashanti	"
565	Colonial Survey Committee	1907–1908
566	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1907
567	Seychelles	"
568	Bermuda	"
569	Weihaiwei	"
570	Hong Kong	"
571	Malta	1907–1908
572	British Honduras	1907
573	Gold Coast	"
574	Nyasaland Protectorate	1907–1908
575	Bahamas	"
576	Gambia	1907
577	St. Vincent	1907–1908
578	Turks and Caicos Islands	1907
579	St. Lucia	"
580	Fiji	"
581	Mauritius	"
582	Sierra Leone	"
583	Southern Nigeria	"
584	Imperial Institute	1906–1907

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
49	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Department.
50	British Colonies, &c.	Cotton Cultivation.
51	Southern Nigeria	Forest Administration.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks and Caicos Islands	Salt Industry.

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1908.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 620.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1908-9.

(For Report for 1907–8, *see* No. 585.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

November, 1909.

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1909.

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No. 620.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1907–8, *see* No. 585.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
2nd October, 1909.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to advise the transmission by book post of six copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1908-9, together with the Report thereon by Mr. E. T. Grannum, the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,

G. T. CARTER,
Governor.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK OF THE COLONY OF BARBADOS FOR THE YEAR 1908-9.

FINANCIAL.

1. The revenue for the year 1908-9 was £189,805 and the expenditure £198,865. The expenditure exceeded the revenue by £9,060, which was paid from £58,165, the surplus at the end of the previous year, reducing it to £49,105.

2. The revenue for the year 1908-9 fell short of that of the previous year by £20,012, while the expenditure was greater by £10,569.

3. The following table shows the revenue for the last five years as compared with the expenditure:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1904-5	185,056	183,297
1905-6	192,291	180,932
1906-7	204,704	186,016
1907-8	209,817	188,296
1908-9	189,805	198,865

4. The principal decreases in 1908-9 as compared with 1907-8 occurred under:—

	£
Customs	18,694
Licences	1,531

5. The total revenue derived from Customs in 1908-9 amounted to £111,127 against £129,721 received in 1907-8. The decrease was due to the quarantine restrictions which hampered the trade of the Island for seven months of the year, and to the abolition of the second moiety of the additional 20 per cent. imposed on the import duties in 1902.

6. The falling off in licences in 1908-9, as compared with 1907-8, was due to the reduction of a large number of licences from £10 to £5.

7. The 20 per cent. additional duty, imposed on the 21st October, 1902, and reduced to 10 per cent. as from the 1st April, 1907, was withdrawn altogether from 1st April, 1908, and all import duties restored to, as nearly as possible, 10 per cent. *ad valorem* basis.

8. The revenue of the eleven parishes, including the Legislative grant of £5,450 for road purposes, was £62,603.

9. In connection with the greater expenditure of £10,569 in 1908-9, as compared with the previous year, it should be men-

tioned that increases occurred principally under the following heads in 1908-9:—

	£
Post Office	698
Medical Departments	961
The Volunteer Force	320
Water-works	4,107
Subsidies and Grants	2,690
Miscellaneous	2,878
Public Works Recurrent	470
Public Works Extraordinary	890
Department of Agriculture	442

On the other hand, the expenditure under the head "Customs" was less than the previous year by £3,260, due chiefly to the supply to the shipping of bunker coal being less and to the refund of duty on coal in drawbacks being correspondingly decreased.

10. The increase of expenditure at the "Post Office" is due to an increase in salaries to the staff, and to the gratuities paid to non-contract steamers for bringing mails. The increase under "Medical Departments" is due, mainly, to the increase in the cost of provisions at the Lunatic Asylum and Lazaretto, £450, and an extra grant to the Board of Health, £358. The greater expenditure in 1908-9, under "Volunteer Force" was caused by the grant made for boots, the substitution of helmets for hats, and repairs to the rifle range. Under the head "Water-Works" the sum of £4,107 spent in excess in 1908-9 as compared with the previous year was for pumping expenses, which cost more owing to the greater quantity of water pumped at Bowmanston to meet the deficiency of the supplies from the springs elsewhere, which were greatly affected by the long continued drought. The excess of expenditure of £2,690 under "Subsidies and Grants" in 1908-9 is due to the short payment to the West India and Panama Cable Company of £430 in subsidy in 1907-8, owing to interruptions in the cable and to the payment in 1908-9 of the whole year's subsidy to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, as well as of £1,750 of the subsidy for the previous year. The increase under "Miscellaneous" of £2,878 is made up of purchase of a Clayton Disinfector £935, purchase of land for the Lazaretto Extension £940, and refunds of fees received under Quarantine Regulations of £970.

Under "Public Works Recurrent" the excess is accounted for by the investment of £470 on account of the Public Buildings Insurance Fund in 1908-9. Nothing was invested on this account in 1907-8. The increase in 1908-9 over the previous year in "Public Works Extraordinary" is accounted for by a greater expenditure by £700 on wharf walls and £200 on removal of the Post Office to larger rooms in the Public Buildings. The increase under the head "Agricultural Department" is due to an increase in the personal emoluments of the staff.

11. At the close of the financial year the public debt of the Colony stood at £410,900, the accumulations of the sinking funds

amounted to £70,940, and there was an unexpended balance of £24,030 from the loan negotiated in 1895 for the purchase of the waterworks and the extension of the water supply to the rural districts.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

12. The value of the imports during the year 1908 was £1,225,869, and the value of the exports was £948,177, giving an excess of imports over exports of the value of £277,692.

13. The following is a comparative table for the last two years, showing the countries from which imports chiefly came, with the value of the importations respectively:—

Countries.	1907. £	1908. £
United Kingdom	558,148	497,277
United States	460,725	411,671
Canada	101,943	151,671
British West Indies	58,237	51,551
British Guiana	46,002	44,407
India	1,232	3,649
Foreign West Indies	8,917	7,579
France	53	nil
Brazil	16,035	2,108
Newfoundland	9,655	18,798
Other Places	10,582	37,158
	£1,271,529	£1,225,869

14. It will be seen that—

41	per cent. of imports came from the	United Kingdom.
34	,, ,, ,,	United States.
12	,, ,, ,,	Canada.
8	,, ,, ,,	British West Indies.
5	,, ,, ,,	All other places.

15. The total value of the exports of goods, the produce and manufacture of the Colony, was less by £5,736 than the value under the same head in the previous year. The decrease occurred as follows:—

	Increase. £	Decrease. £
Sugar	28,025	
Molasses		15,208
Cotton (raw)		21,783
Rum	180	
Minor products	3,050	
Total increase	£31,255	
Decreases greater by	5,736	
	£36,991	£36,991

16. In 1907, 35,270 hogsheads of muscovado and 2,482 hogsheads of dry sugar were shipped, which realized £260,410; and in 1908, 34,942 hogsheads of muscovado sugar and 890 hogsheads of dry sugar were shipped, realizing £288,436. The shipments of 1907 were larger by 1,920 hogsheads than in 1908, but the value of the smaller crop in 1908 was greater by £28,026 than the larger crop of the previous year. This is accounted for by better prices.

17. The molasses crop, which was 62,112 puncheons in 1907, of the value of £232,920, was only 54,428 puncheons in 1908, of the value of £217,712. Prices of molasses in the later year were slightly better than in 1907.

18. With regard to countries from which Barbados derives her imports, it is observed that Canada has made a further capture of trade at the expense of the United States, the amount being £151,671 in 1908 against £101,943 in 1907, while imports from the United States have dropped from £460,725 in 1907 to £411,672 in 1908.

19. In the exports from the Island, which the Dominion has taken, there is a falling off compared with the previous year, the figures being £318,671 for 1907 and £237,916 for 1908. On the other hand, the United States took of the exports £183,968 in 1908 against £50,107 in 1907.

20. It will be seen that imports from Canada increased during the year 1908 by 3¼ per cent., while imports from the United States have fallen 2 per cent.

Exports to Canada have decreased 9 per cent. in the comparison between the two years, and exports to the United States have increased 16 per cent.

21. The following table gives the value of articles imported from Canada, and contrasts the figures with those of the previous year:—

Articles which show an increase:—

	1907.	1908.
Cheese	£1,372	£1,471
Flour	7,179	23,413
Grain	3,445	5,572
Oats	2,243	2,555
Lumber (white pine)	27,630	34,886
Shingles	9,136	12,968
Iron nails	1,092	1,276
Joiner's work	756	1,065
Hay	682	1,650
Sulphate of ammonia	17,709	26,389
Cordage (except twines)	282	1,379

Articles which show a decrease:—

	1907.	1908.
Butter	£1,630	£1,460
Fish (salted or pickled)	20,643	19,654
Beef and pork	766	28
Staves	1,276	740

22. It is believed that an appreciable quantity of Canadian products came viâ New York and are shown in the returns as of American origin. An effort is being made to ensure that the real country of origin is declared on the import entry.

23. The staple products of the Island for 1908 were estimated at £567,971, or £5,736 less than the previous year. The figures for the two years are as follows:—

—	1907.		1908.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Hogsheads.	£	Hogsheads.	£
Sugar (dry)	2,482	22,338	890	8,900
,, (muscovado) ...	35,270	238,072	34,942	279,536
	Puncheons.		Puncheons.	
Molasses	62,112	232,920	54,428	217,712
	Gallons.		Gallons.	
Rum...	854	64	3,254	244
	Lbs.		Lbs.	
Cotton (raw)	947,140	83,362	985,256	61,578
Total	—	576,756	—	567,970

24. The following table shows the distribution of the sugar crop in the years 1907 and 1908, respectively:—

—	1907.		1908.	
	Hogsheads.	Value.	Hogsheads.	Value
		£		£
United Kingdom	9,872	66.910	3,141	25,128
United States	2,465	16,639	18,159	145,272
Dominion of Canada ...	23,553	164,293	12,774	103.972
Other Places	1,862	12,568	1,758	14,064
Total	37,752	260,410	35,832	288,436

25. 54,428 puncheons of molasses were exported of the value of £217,712. Of this quantity 33,450 puncheons, valued at £133,800, were exported to Canada, and 12,734 puncheons, valued at £50,936, to Newfoundland, as against 7,116 puncheons, valued at £28,464, exported to the United States.

26. The transit export trade, which is one of considerable importance, continues to develop. The following table shows its growth during the last five years:—

1904	£233,304
1905	239,015
1906	303,647
1907	321,515
1908	340,173

27. The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships that entered the port of Bridgetown during the year 1908:—

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
502	981,109	654	55,659	1,156	1,036,768

28. As compared with 1907, 21 more vessels entered the port with an aggregate tonnage of 166,711 tons. This return shows an increase of 49 steamers and a decrease of 28 sailing vessels as compared with the previous year.

29. The nationality of the ships entering the port was as follows:—

	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British	1,006	... 867,338
Norwegian	21	... 23,415
Danish	26	... 41,736
Dutch	73	... 71,133
Others	30	... 33,146
	1,156	... 1,036,768

30. On account of the outbreak of yellow fever previously mentioned, which kept the Colony in quarantine for some time, the coaling business decreased during 1908, as will be seen from the accompanying table:—

Year.	No. of Steamers coaled.	No. of Tons of Coal taken.
1904	96	... 16,000
1905	121	... 20,000
1906	228	... 46,692
1907	306	... 70,531
1908	229	... 54,153

31. The duty collected on rum for the year ended the 31st of December, 1908, was £30,665 as against £29,659 in 1907, showing an increase for the year under review of £1,006.

32. The amount collected as distillers' licences amounted to £446, which, added to the amount of duty, makes a total revenue from rum made in this Island of £31,111. In 1907 duty and licences together amounted to £30,082.

33. The rate of duty remains the same as the previous year, viz., 3*s.* for every proof gallon, and a further half-penny a gallon of rum sold as licence duty.

34. The number of licences issued during the year was 352 in all, viz., 13 at £30 each, 9 at £15 each, and 330 at £10 each, making a total value of £3,825.

35. During the year the Legislature passed an Act consolidating and amending the Acts of the Island relating to the sale of spirituous liquor. Under it all licences for the sale of liquors are reduced to £5 each, and in order to equalise the incidence of taxation in proportion to business done by shopkeepers as well as to make up for the loss occasioned by this reduction, a licence duty is imposed as under:—

	s.	*d.*
Brandy, whiskey, liqueur, and sparkling wines, the gallon		5
Gin, rum, the proof gallon		2
Still wine, the gallon		2
Other distilled spirits and spirituous liquors, the gallon		2
Malt liquor in wood, the cask of 64 gallons ...	1	0
Malt liquor in bottles, reputed quarts, the dozen		½

36. In April the balance of the additional duty imposed on imported spirits was removed, while the duty on locally-made rum remained the same. It will be seen, however, from the following figures, that the removal of this duty on the imported liquor did not affect the manufacture of the local article:—

Manufactured in 1908.	Manufactured in 1907.
228,513 gallons.	210,612 gallons

37. The sugar crop for the year 1908 was 34,942 hogsheads of muscovado sugar, and 890 hogsheads of vacuum pan crystals, and 54,428 puncheons of molasses, of the total value of £506,148. This is less than the previous year by 1,920 hogsheads of sugar and 7,684 puncheons of molasses. Although the crop was less than that of 1907, owing to the higher price at which it was sold, the value was £12,818 more. Judging from the above figures as they stand, it would appear that the crop for 1908, as regards sugar, was below the average for the previous 60 years, which is 49,950 hogsheads, by 14,118 hogsheads. This, however, is not so, as at the present time a considerable quantity of "fancy" molasses is manufactured direct from the juice of the sugarcane, but, as no separate account is kept of the shipment of this product, it is impossible to distinguish accurately between the molasses made in this way, and that which drains from the sugar after its manufacture. It may, however, be stated that for some years prior to the time "fancy" molasses was manufactured, it was found that 88 wine gallons of molasses were exported for every ton of sugar shipped, and as the average contents of a puncheon shipped is 110 wine gallons, the quantity of "choice" molasses from the sugar shipped in 1908 would be 25,082 puncheons; therefore, the remainder, 29,346 puncheons, may be taken as the quantity of "fancy" molasses exported during the year. This, on the basis of 315 gallons of syrup being equal to one ton of sugar and 88 gallons of molasses, would be equivalent to 11,712 hogsheads of sugar. The total sugar crop for 1908, therefore, if no "fancy" molasses had been made, would have been 47,544 hogsheads, and only 4,206 hogsheads less than the average for the 60 years. The value of the sugar exported to

Canada during the year under review, in spite of the preferential treatment accorded to sugar imported into that country from the British Colonies, was only £95,072, as compared with £164,293 for 1907. On the other hand, the exports of sugar to the United States increased in value from £16,639 in 1907 to £145,272 in 1908, or an increase of £128,633. This was due to the fact that as the Cuban crop was likely to be short, refiners in the United States paid such a price for sugar that when the freight from Barbados to New York, which is less than that to Canada, was taken into consideration, it was more remunerative to sell sugar to the refiners in that country than to those in Canada. The value of the exports of sugar to Great Britain was £25,128 as against £66,910 for the previous year, *i.e.*, £41,782 less. This was to some extent due to the fact that in 1907 the refiners in Greenock purchased sugar from Barbados which they refined in bond and shipped to Canada to compete against the refiners in that country, expecting, at the price at which sugar was being sold, plus the preferential treatment, to obtain remunerative returns. The Canadian refiners, however, discovering this, reduced the price of their refined sugar. The Greenock refiners were thus unable to sell their sugar at a profit and therefore had to discontinue sending it there.

38. The rainfall in December, 1907, and January, 1908, was somewhat below the average, consequently the stand of young canes was not, on the whole, as satisfactory as usual. The dry season set in at the usual time, and the drought may be said to have continued until the end of November, the average rainfall being only 44·78 inches, as compared with the average for the 60 years ended 1906 of 62·48 inches. As in the previous year, the effect of these conditions of rainfall tended to induce the attacks of the sugarcane root disease, *Marasmius sacchari*; consequently, from the combined effects of drought and disease, the crop for 1909 is expected to be considerably less than the average one.

39. The cotton industry, I regret to report, has, owing to the poor yields and low prices of late, somewhat diminished. In 1908 there were only 5,768 acres grown as compared with 7,194 acres in 1907. The quantity of lint exported for the season 1907-8, *i.e.*, from the 1st October, 1907, to 30th September, 1908, was 2,032 bales containing 988,443 lbs. of lint of the estimated value of £66,617. Owing to the conditions mentioned above, and to the fairly remunerative prices obtaining for sugar and molasses at present, the probability is that the area planted in 1909 will be even less than that of the previous year. In the near future the Directors of the Barbados Co-operative Cotton Factory, Limited, propose to erect a factory for the extraction of oil from cotton seed, and for the preparation of cotton cake meal for feeding the working animals. As soon as this factory is erected, there will be two factories for the extraction of oil from cotton seed in operation in the Island.

40. From January 1st to December 31st, 1908, 10,431 bunches of bananas were shipped to the United Kingdom. The prices obtained, as judged by those exported by the Local Department

of Agriculture, were satisfactory. If suitable arrangements could be made for the carriage of the fruit, there is no doubt but that a remunerative banana industry could be easily established between this Colony and the mother country.

41. During the year exhibits of the principal products of the Colony were shown at the Toronto and Ottawa Exhibitions held in August and September. A handbook containing historical, agricultural, and general information concerning the Colony was forwarded along with the exhibits for free distribution to visitors. In addition, exhibits were sent to the Liverpool Colonial Products Exhibition, which was held in November. The arrangements in Canada were, as in the past, undertaken by Mr. Charles S. Pickford, a representative of the firm of Messrs. Pickford and Black, Halifax, and the thanks of the Colony are due to that gentleman for the efficient manner in which the exhibits were staged and the West Indian Court decorated.

LEGISLATION.

42. Forty-eight Acts were passed by the Legislature in 1908. The following are the principal:—

No. 1 of 1908.—An Act to amend the Savings Bank Act, 1890 (1890-28), to authorise the bank to increase the amount deposited under any single account from £300 to £1,000.

No. 4 of 1908.—An Act entitled the Commission of Enquiry Act. Under this Act power is given to the Governor to issue Commissions of Enquiry into the conduct of any officer of the Public Service in the Island, and the conduct or management of any department of the Public Service, or of any public or local institution which receives money from the Public Treasury, &c.

No. 12 of 1908.—An Act to make provision for the treatment of seamen at Pelican Island.

No. 21 of 1908.—An Act to amend the Wireless and Submarine Telegraph Act of 1905. This Act makes permanent, until it is specifically repealed, the Act which, previously, was limited in duration, unless continued from year to year under the Act to continue various expiring laws.

EDUCATION.

43. The total expenditure on education during the year 1908-9 was £17,274.

44. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, receives no legislative grant, but four island scholarships are annually awarded to the students at the college, each of the value of £40 a year for two years. There were 17 pupils on the roll at the close of the year 1908.

45. The following table shows the statistics relating to first and second grade schools which receive grants from the Treasury:—

Name of School.	Government Grant.	Pupils' Fees.	Number of Pupils on the Roll.
Boys.	£	£	
Harrison College	1,000	2,246	170
The Lodge School	500	670	47
The Combermere School	300	824	147
The Coleridge School	100	79	30
The Alleyne School	100	3	8
The Parry School	100	33	12
The Christ Church Foundation School.	Nil	134	56
Girls.			
Queen's College	400	739	89
The Alexandra School	125	124	31
Total	2,625	4,852	590

46. The primary schools, which number 165, were established in connection with the following denominations:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.
				£
Church of England	131	21,194	12,808	8,319
Wesleyan	18	2,990	1,729	1,207
Moravian...	16	2,393	1,395	940
Total	165	26,577	15,932	10,466

47. In order to further develop the higher educational interests of the Island, and to encourage young persons who may show promise in the prosecution of their studies by enabling them to complete their studies at an institution for higher education in Europe or America, four scholarships, called the Barbados Scholarships, each of the annual value of £175, one to be competed for annually, have been established by the Legislature. The scholarship is tenable during membership of the Institution for a period not exceeding four years at any university or college in Europe or Canada, or at any agricultural or technical college in Europe or America that may be approved by the Education Board.

48. A boy is thus enabled by winning exhibitions to pass from an elementary to a second grade, and thence to a first grade, school, and to close his educational career at a university.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

49. The Barbados General Hospital, which is the only hospital in the Island, is situated in Bridgetown, and receives from the Colonial Government an annual grant of £6,630 for its upkeep. It is managed by a Court of Directors composed of 18 members, of whom 6 are ex-officio members, 3 are members of the Legislative Council, 7 are members of the House of Assembly, and 2 are life members.

50. The ordinary management of the hospital is delegated to a House Committee of 12 members selected from the Court of Directors by that body. During the year 3,904 persons were treated in the hospital, of whom 352 died. The number of out patients treated during the same period was 27,672, while the daily average in hospital was 201.

51. The total expenditure on the institution for 1908 was £6,577.

52. In June, 1908, the Adjutant-General's pier and married quarters, which was purchased from the War Department, was handed over to the Hospital Authorities, and on 26th of August it was opened with six beds for the treatment of pellagra cases. From that date to the end of the year 12 cases were treated. Of these, three were discharged as cured, one was relieved, and in one case no result was obtained. There were three deaths from the disease, and the other four cases remained at the end of the year under treatment.

53. The daily average number of prisoners in Glendairy Prison during 1908 was 226—139 males and 87 females. These figures show a slight increase as compared with the figures of 1907, which gave an average of 217—137 males and 80 females. To the steady employment of a large number of the male labouring class in Panama may be attributed the present favourable condition of the prison. It is estimated that between 19,000 and 20,000 Barbadian labourers are engaged on the canal works there.

54. The expenditure on the prison for the year was £4,938, an increase on the figures for 1907 by £366, and showed an expenditure of £21 17*s.* per head as compared with £20 8*s.* 0¼*d.* per head for 1907. This slight increase must be attributed to the severe drought from which the Island suffered during the year, which caused provisions to be dearer than in the previous year.

55. The number of prisoners committed for penal imprisonment during 1908 was 2,129, or an increase of 255 on the numbers for the previous year. Of this number 1,234 had previous convictions recorded against them.

56. The usual good discipline of the prison was maintained throughout the year.

57. In the Government Industrial School during the year under review there were 36 admissions and 41 discharges, leaving the number resident on the 31st December, 1908, at 120. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the school was £2,225.

The boys are principally employed on agricultural labour in the grounds of the institution. The total value of the receipts for sugar, cotton, and other products of the institution amounted to £1,418 for the year. The actual cost of the Colony, therefore, for this institution was £807, or £6 14*s*. 6*d*. per head of the daily average number of boys.

58. The question of the establishment of a reformatory for girls is still under consideration, the report of the Committee appointed by the Governor to recommend a suitable site not having been dealt with during the last Legislative Session.

59. The daily average number of patients in the Lunatic Asylum during the year was 361—156 males and 205 females—30 were discharged as cured, 6 as relieved, and 1 not improved, while 41 died. The total expenditure on the institution was £5,884. The revenue derived from the Asylum Farm for the year was £681, while the expenditure was £452, leaving a profit of £229.

60. There were resident in the Lazaretto on the 1st January, 1908, 119 inmates—57 males and 62 females. During the year 12 patients were admitted, 5 were discharged, and 7 died. The daily average was 119. Of this number 56 were anæsthetic and 59 tuberculous. Three patients escaped during the year, but one was apprehended and brought back from British Guiana.

61. There is no law in Barbados providing for the compulsory segregation of lepers, so that the figures above quoted cannot be considered as correct data of the actual condition of the Colony with regard to the disease.

62. Poor Relief is controlled by the Boards of Poor Law Guardians of the several parishes. Each parish has its own Almshouse and Medical Officer, except St. Michael, which employs two Medical Officers. The total parochial expenditure of this service during the year was £19,572.

63. The Savings Bank continues to be a very popular institution. On the 31st December, 1908, there were 18,410 depositors' accounts, an increase of 1,079 over 1907. The total standing to the credit of depositors was £311,842, an increase of £27,822 on the previous year. The rate of interest is 2¾ per cent. Deposits under any account are limited to £1,000.

64. There were 238 Friendly Societies on the register on the 31st December, 1908. There were 43,494 members and 98,975 dependants, or a total of 142,469. The societies exist for the relief of members and their families in time of sickness, and to provide funds for funeral expenses.

POST OFFICE.

65. In the year 1908 the number of mails received was 1,780, against 1,445 in 1907, and the number despatched was 1,612,

against 1,433 in 1907. This shows an increase of 514 mails. The largest number were received from the following places:—

Brazil and Buenos Ayres	262
Great Britain	152
United States of America	143
British Guiana	96
Saint Lucia	84

66. The postal articles received from abroad amounted to 988,434, against 948,046 in 1907, and the total of articles despatched was 919,086, against 912,265 in 1907.

67. Below are given the countries to which the largest number of mails were despatched:—

Brazil and Buenos Ayres	102
British Guiana	138
Trinidad	114
United States of America	160
Saint Lucia	89
Antigua	94

68. The following lines carried mails during the year:—

The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company (Southampton).
The Harrison Line (Liverpool).
The Leyland Line (Liverpool).
The Scrutton's Direct Line (London).
The Glasgow Line (Glasgow).
The Armstrong Line (United States of America and West Indies).
The Booth and Red Cross Line (United States of America and Brazil).
The Quebec Steamship Company (United States of America and West Indies).
The Hamburg American and Sloman Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).
The Lamport and Holt (United States of America and Brazil).
The Lloyd Brazilian Line (United States of America and Brazil).
The Pickford and Black (Canada and West Indies).
The East Asiatic (Europe and West Indies).
The Royal Dutch Line (United States of America and Surinam).

69. Money orders issued by the Colony amounted to £19,009, and British postal orders to £3,258. The value of money orders issued elsewhere and paid by the Colony was £97,154. The value of British postal orders paid was £5,337.

70. The revenue derived from the Post Office in 1908 was £7,926, and the expenditure £7,514.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

71. As compared with those of 1907, the statistics in crime for 1908 show a slight increase.

72. Out of a population estimated on the 31st December, 1908, at 194,477, 9,759 persons were summarily convicted during the year 1908, and 53 persons were convicted and punished on indictment. These figures give a percentage of 5·04 of the estimated population convicted of crime. This percentage is not unsatisfactory when an analysis of the figures is taken, as it will be seen that the large majority of cases were for trivial offences, and were met by the imposition of fines.

73. Of the 53 convictions in the Superior Courts—

2 were for unnatural crimes.
6 were for other offences against the person.
45 were for offences against property.

74. It is to be regretted that the serious crime of setting fire to growing crops of sugarcanes does not diminish, and it is extremely difficult to obtain a conviction, although, in many cases, the Government offers a substantial reward of £50 to any person who will give such evidence as will lead to the conviction of the offender.

75. During the year there were 134 cane fires, some of them supposed to have been caught up by sparks from the railway engine, but the majority being supposed to be the acts of incendiaries.

76. Twenty-four rewards were offered, but only two persons were, as the result of these awards, brought to justice—one man who was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude, and one elderly woman, 56 years of age, who was sentenced to 5 years' penal servitude.

VITAL STATISTICS.

77. The population of the Island on the 31st December, 1908, was estimated at 194,477, but the figures are not reliable, as no census has been taken since 1891, and a record of persons migrating is not kept.

78. During 1908 the birth rate was 36·5 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 33·2 for 1907 and 37·2 for 1906. Illegitimate births continue at a high percentage, being 56·7 per cent. of the births recorded.

79. The burials number 5,641, or 405 more than in the previous year. The death rate was 2·9 per cent. of the estimated population. The mortality amongst infants of one year and under was exceedingly heavy, being 31·94 per cent. It is thought that this heavy mortality is due to improper feeding of infants, for which ignorance is in a great measure responsible. Carefully prepared instructions as to the proper treatment of infants have been distributed throughout the Island, and it is hoped that good will result.

METEOROLOGY.

80. The average barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station for 1908, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea-level, was at 9 a.m. 29·974 inches, and at 3 p.m. 29·915 inches, the highest recorded being 30·088 inches at 9 a.m. on February 10, and the lowest 29·813 inches at 3 p.m. on November 23. For the ten years 1897-1906 the average barometric pressure under the same conditions was at 9 a.m. 29·962 inches, and at 3 p.m. 29·892 inches. The highest average pressure was 30·024 inches at 9 a.m., and the lowest 29·819 inches at 3 p.m.

81. The average maximum temperature for 1908 was 84·6° F., and the average minimum 75·7° F. The highest temperature for the year was 89·5° F., which occurred on September 18 and 20, and the lowest temperature 64·8° F. on January 5. The mean average temperature for the year was 80·0° F.; the highest range for the year was 24·7° F., and the average range 19·6° F. For the ten years prior to 1907 the average maximum temperature was 84·2° F., and the average minimum 75·8° F. The maximum extreme during the ten years was 88·1° F., and the minimum extreme 66·1° F. The mean average temperature was 79·9° F., and the average range 17·5° F.

82. The average velocity of the wind during 1908 was 11·4 miles per hour. The maximum velocity was 23·6 miles per hour on May 14, and the minimum ·5 on July 7. The average velocity for the ten years was 9·8 miles per hour.

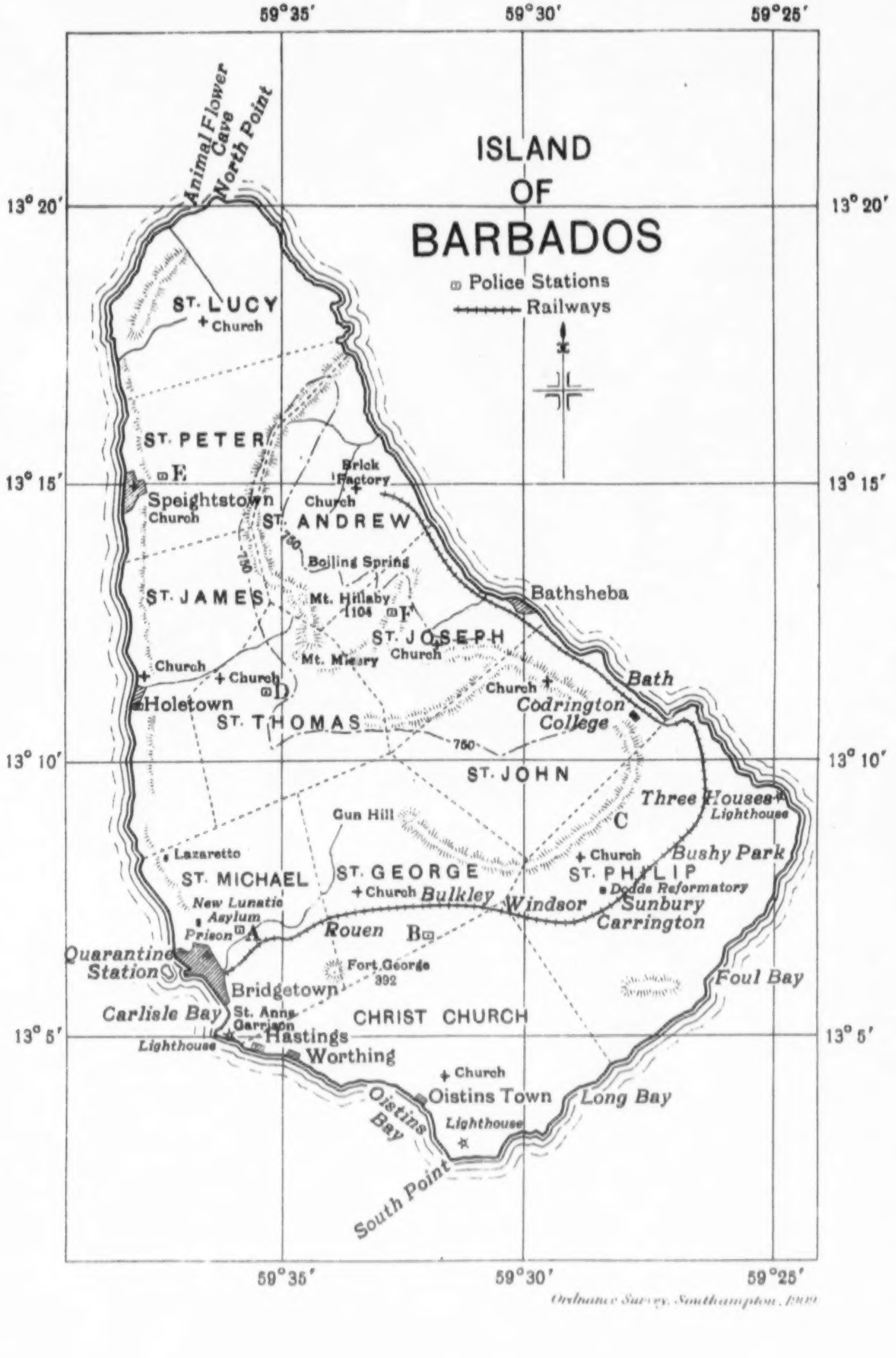
83. The rainfall registered at the Government Meteorological Station during 1908 amounted to 38·83 inches. This fell on 139 days, the greatest fall being 2·21 inches on September 25, and the lowest, ·01 inch on February 27 and July 27.

84. The average rainfall for the Island for the year from 176 stations was 44·78 inches, as compared with 47·68 inches from 178 stations for the previous year, and with 62·47 inches from an average of 117 stations for the past sixty years, 1848 to 1907 inclusive.

GENERAL REMARKS.

85. The Panama Canal Works continue to afford an ample field of labour for able-bodied Barbadians, of whom, it is estimated, there were between 19,000 and 20,000 resident on the Canal Zone at 31st December, 1908. The Barbadian labourer is an excellent worker, and this the Isthmian Canal Commission appear to have recognised, for their recruiting in the West Indies is now done almost exclusively in Barbados.

86. There can be no doubt that the emigrants and their families have benefited largely by the emigration. The amount of money orders remitted from the Isthmus in 1908 was £63,210,


ISLAND OF BARBADOS
Police Stations
Railways
59° 35′
59° 30′
59° 25′
13° 20′
13° 15′
13° 10′
13° 5′
Animal Flower Cave
North Point
ST. LUCY
Church
ST. PETER
E
Speightstown
Church
Brick Factory
Church
ST. ANDREW
750
Boiling Spring
ST. JAMES
Mt. Hillaby
1104
F
Bathsheba
ST. JOSEPH
Church
Mt. Misery
Church
Church
D
Holetown
Bath
Church
Codrington College
ST. THOMAS
750
ST. JOHN
Three Houses
Lighthouse
Gun Hill
C
Lazaretto
Church
Bushy Park
ST. MICHAEL
ST. GEORGE
ST. PHILIP
Dodds Reformatory
New Lunatic Asylum
Church
Bulkley
Windsor
Sunbury
Carrington
Prison
A
Rouen
B
Quarantine Station
Fort George
392
Bridgetown
Foul Bay
Carlisle Bay
St. Anns Garrison
CHRIST CHURCH
Lighthouse
Hastings
Worthing
Church
Oistins Town
Long Bay
Oistins Bay
Lighthouse
South Point

Ordnance Survey, Southampton. 1909

and 2,376 emigrants who returned brought with them, according to their signed declarations, £21,864.

87. A few cases of yellow fever occurred in 1908; nine from 1st January to 14th April, one in October, and three in December. The health of the Island was otherwise excellent.

88. The tourist traffic was somewhat restricted by local conditions during 1908. Efforts have been made to advertise the Island as a health resort, and an article appeared in "The Times" newspaper on the subject, but more general advertising and increased hotel accommodation are wanted.

EDWD. T. GRANNUM,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
2nd October, 1909.

COLONIAL REPORTS.

The following recent reports relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
586	Somaliland Protectorate	1907–1908
587	Trinidad and Tobago	„
588	Sierra Leone	1907
589	British Guiana	1907–1908
590	Grenada	1907
591	Leeward Islands	1907–1908
592	East Africa Protectorate	„
593	Bechuanaland Protectorate	„
594	Northern Nigeria	„
595	Basutoland	„
596	Swaziland	„
597	St. Helena	1908
598	Gibraltar	„
599	Falkland Islands	„
600	Uganda	1907–1908
601	Imperial Institute	1908
602	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	„
603	Ashanti	„
604	Ceylon	„
605	Weihaiwei	„
606	Seychelles	„
607	Jamaica	1907–1908
608	Colonial Survey Committee	1908–1909
609	Gambia	1908
610	Malta	1908–1909
611	Sierra Leone	1908
612	Turks and Caicos Islands	„
613	Gold Coast	„
614	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1908–1909
615	Bahamas	„
616	St. Lucia	1908
617	Hong Kong	„
618	Fiji	„
619	Nyasaland Protectorate	1908–1909

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
52	South Africa	Native Education.
53	East Africa Protectorate	Veterinary Bacteriological Work, 1907–8.
54	Newfoundland	Governor's Visit to the Micmac Indians.
55	Cape Colony	Rietfontein Area.
56	Turks Islands	Salt Industry.
57	Uganda	Governor's Tour.
58	British Colonies	Fibres.
59	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1906–7.
60	Nyasaland Protectorate	„ „ 1907–8.
61	South Africa	Agriculture and Viticulture.
62	Uganda	Cotton Industry.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 660.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1909-10.

(For Report for 1908-9, *see* No. 620.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1910.

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1910.

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No. 660.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1908–9, *see* No. 620.)

THE ACTING GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Barbados,
14th October, 1910.

MY LORD,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith six copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1909-10, together with the report thereon.

I have, &c.,
J. A. BURDON,
Acting Governor.

The Right Honourable,
The Earl of Crewe, K.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

(17975—2.) Wt. 27349—387. 1125 & 85 11/10. D & S.

REPORT ON THE BARBADOS BLUE BOOK, 1909-10.

FINANCIAL.

1. The revenue for the year 1909-10 was £195,803 and the expenditure £199,625. The expenditure exceeded the revenue by £3,822, which was paid from the surplus of £49,105, reducing it to £45,283.

2. The revenue for the year 1909-10 exceeded the revenue of the previous year by £5,998 and the expenditure by £759.

3. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1905-6	192,291	180,932
1906-7	204,704	186,016
1907-8	209,817	188,296
1908-9	189,805	198,865
1909-10	195,803	199,625

4. The principal increases in 1909-10 as compared with 1908-9 occurred under:—

	£
Licences	1,200
Reimbursements in Aid	2,749
Water Rates	898

5. The total revenue derived from Customs in 1909-10 was £111,687, as compared with £111,127 received during the year 1908-09. This small increase of £560 occurred principally in tonnage dues and import duties collected, and was probably on account of the Colony being rid of the yellow fever for the last five months of the year.

6. The increase in licences in 1909-10 over 1908-9 was due to the reduction in the price of licences and the operation of a licence duty, which was in operation for only a half-year in 1908-9, in which year it was introduced, against the whole year in 1909-10.

7. The increase in reimbursements in aid was due to the return of certain loans to parochial authorities for special purposes.

8. The increase under waterworks was due mainly to increased receipts from services and supplies to shipping.

9. The revenue of the eleven parishes, including the Legislative grant of £5,450 for road purposes, was £65,897.

10. While the total expenditure in 1909-10 was only £760 greater than in 1908-9, there was a considerable increase under each of the following heads:—

	£
Harbour Master	264
Customs	462
Post Office	1,022
Government Industrial School ...	269
Chemistry and Agricultural Science	430
Public Library	459
Medical Departments	3,771
Volunteer Force	229
Pensions	439
Miscellaneous	2,265

11. On the other hand the expenditure was less than in the year 1908-9 under:—

	£
Waterworks	3,310
Charges of Debt	1,487
Subsidies and Grants	3,595
Public Works Recurrent	282
Department of Agriculture	273

12. The increase of expenditure under "Harbour Master" is due chiefly to the re-organization of the office. The increase under "Customs" is due to additions to the staff and increase of salaries under the Customs Establishment Act, 1909-30, which came into operation on the 1st March, 1910. The increase at the "Post Office" is due to increase of personal emoluments, the gratuities paid to non-contract steamers for the conveyance of mails, and to cost of stamps, stationery, &c., incurred in 1908-9 and paid in 1909-10. The increase under "Government Industrial School" is due to increased salaries and to a personal allowance to the Chief Overseer. The increase under "Chemistry and Agricultural Science" is due to the transfer of the Lecturer in Natural and Agricultural Science from the Department of Agriculture; and to a personal allowance to the Assistant Professor of Chemistry. The increase under "Public Library" is due to the purchase of the nucleus of a law library, the cost of lectures, and the provision of a reading room at the Speightstown library. The increase under "Medical Departments" was caused by additional grants to the General Hospital, increased cost of provisions and new cooking apparatus for the Lunatic Asylum, refunds under the Quarantine Act, the destruction of rats, and to the salary of a Special Sanitary Inspector. The increase under "Volunteer Force" was caused by the introduction of a drum and fife band, the upkeep of a horse for the Staff Officer, and grants to the Mounted Infantry for efficiency. The increase under "Pensions" was due to the retirement of the Comptroller of Customs, a clergyman, and a school teacher, whose pensions combined give a total of £621, which was reduced by the lapsing of other pensions to £439. The increase under "Miscellaneous" is due mainly to the provision of a barge for the Clayton Disinfector, the purchase of a steam launch for the Health Officer, the purchase of land for the protection of Newcastle Springs, advertising Barbados as a health resort, an honorarium to the

Secretary of the Education Commission, and to the cost of entertaining the Royal Commissioners on Trade Relations between Canada and the West Indies.

PUBLIC DEBT.

13. At the close of the financial year, 31st March, 1910, the public debt of the Colony stood at £416,000, the accumulation of the sinking funds amounted to £77,865, and there was an unexpended balance of £2,762 19*s*. from the loan negotiated in 1895 for the purchase of the Waterworks and the extension of the water supply to the rural districts.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

14. The value of the imports during the year 1909 was £1,119,343 and the value of the exports was £888,086, giving an excess of imports over exports of £231,257. Of the total exports £576,330 was the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £311,756 the value of the produce and manufactures of British, foreign, and other countries.

15. The following is a comparative table for the last two years, showing the countries from which imports chiefly came, with the value of the importations respectively:—

Countries.	1908. £	1909. £
United Kingdom ...	497,277	480,823
United States	411,671	355,809
Canada	151,671	131,910
British West Indies ...	51,551	51,330
British Guiana ...	44,407	45,361
India	3,649	—
Foreign West Indies ...	7,679	6,505
France	—	3,255
Brazil	2,108	8,321
Newfoundland ...	18,798	10,556
Other Places	37,158	35,474
	£1,225,869	£1,119,344

16. It will be seen that in 1909-10—

42 per cent. of imports came from the United Kingdom, being an increase of 1 per cent. over 1908-9.

32½ per cent. of imports came from the United States, a decrease of 1½ per cent. on the figures of 1908-9.

11½ per cent. of imports came from Canada, a decrease of ½ per cent. on the figures of 1908-9.

4½ per cent. of imports came from the British West Indies, a decrease of 3½ per cent. on 1908-9.

9½ per cent. of imports came from all other places, an increase of 4½ per cent. over 1908-9.

17. The following table gives the value of articles imported from Canada and contrasts the figures with those of the previous year:—

The following articles show an increase:—

	1908.	1909.
	£	£
Fish (salted and pickled)	19,654	25,813
Oats	2,555	2,880
Iron nails	1,276	1,299
Staves and shooks	740	3,354
Bran and pollard	120	1,291
Beef and pork (salted or pickled)	994	1,319

The following articles show a decrease:—

	1908.	1909.
	£	£
Butter	1,460	1,238
Cordage	1,376	956
Flour	23,413	21,786
Fruit and vegetables	2,421	1,607
Grain	5,572	2,441
Hay	1,659	783
Sulphate of ammonia	26,389	19,566
White pine	34,86[illegible]	29,843
Shingles	12,968	10,955
Joiners' work	1,065	750

18. The total value of the exports of goods the produce and manufacture of the Colony was less by £31,674 than the value under the same head in the previous year. The decrease occurred as follows:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
Sugar		135,525
Molasses	127,468	
Cotton (raw)		20,632
Rum		52
Minor Products		2,933
Total increase	£127,468	
Decrease greater by	31,674	
	£159,142	£159,142

19. In 1908, 34,942 hogsheads of muscovado sugar and 870 hogsheads of dry sugar were shipped, which realized £288,436; and in 1909, 16,968 hogsheads of muscovado sugar and 827 hogsheads of dry sugar were shipped, realizing £152,911. The shipments of 1909 were smaller than in 1908 by 18,037 hogsheads, and the value of 1909 crop was less by £135,525 than that of 1908.

20. The molasses crop, which was 54,428 puncheons in 1908, of the value of £217,712, amounted to 69,036 puncheons, of the value of £345,180 in 1909. So much cane juice is converted, at the present day, into "fancy molasses" direct, that it is difficult to make comparisons between the sugar and molasses crops, respectively, of one year with those of another year. Sometimes it is more remunerative to convert the juice of the sugar cane into sugar. At others the demand is greater for "fancy" molasses. It is preferable, therefore, for the purposes of comparison, to take the values of the two together. For further information on this subject reference is invited to the remarks under "Agriculture," paragraph 36 of this report.

21. In the exports from the Island it is observed that out of a total of £576,330 in produce and manufactures of the Colony, Canada has taken £348,707, as compared with £237,916 in 1908 and £318,671 in 1907, Newfoundland coming second with £72,002, the United Kingdom third with £70,487, and the United States fourth with £37,218. It will be seen that exports to Canada have increased 79·8 per cent. between the two years, and exports to the United States have decreased.

22. The staple products of the Island for 1909 were estimated at £539,229, or £28,741 less than the previous year. The figures for the two years were as follows:—

—	1908.		1909.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Hogsheads.	£	Hogsheads.	£
Sugar (dry)	890	8,900	827	8,683
„ (Muscovado) ...	34,942	279,536	16,968	144,228
	Puncheons.		Puncheons.	
Molasses	54,428	217,712	69,036	345,180
	Gallons.		Gallons.	
Rum...	3,254	244	2,559	192
	Pounds.		Pounds.	
Cotton (raw)	985,256	61,578	818,917	40,946
Total	—	567,970	—	539,229

23. 17,795 hogsheads of sugar of the value of £152,911 were exported in 1909. Of this quantity 12,420 hogsheads valued at £107,222 were taken by Canada; 3,013 hogsheads valued at £25,610 were taken by Great Britain; 762 hogsheads valued at £6,477 were taken by the United States; 843 hogsheads valued at £7,165 were taken by Holland; and 757 hogsheads valued at £6,436 to other countries.

24. Of 69,036 puncheons of molasses of the value of £345,180, 48,265 puncheons valued at £241,325 were exported to Canada; 14,312 valued at £71,560 to Newfoundland; 4,934 puncheons valued at £24,670 to the United States; 545 puncheons valued at £2,725 to the United Kingdom; and 980 puncheons valued at £4,900 to other countries.

25. The transit export trade, which is of considerable importance, shows a decrease in 1909. The figures for the last five years are given below:—

	£
1905	239,015
1906	303,647
1907	321,515
1908	340,173
1909	311,756

26. The following tables show the number and tonnage of ships which entered at, and cleared from, the port of Bridgetown during the year 1909:—

Entered.

Steamers.		Sailing vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage	Number.	Tonnage.
550	1,133,800	671	83,318	1,221	1,217,118

Cleared.

Steamers.		Sailing vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage	Number.	Tonnage.
551	1,136,094	674	83,874	1,225	1,219,968

27. As compared with the year 1908, 48 more steam vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 152,691 tons, and 17 more sailing vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 27,659 tons, entered the port during the past year.

28. The nationality of the ships entering the port was as follows:—

	Vessels.		Tonnage.
British	1,017	...	980,133
Dutch	103	...	110,181
Norwegian	34	...	36,432
Danish	21	...	29,540
Others	46	...	60,832
	1,221		1,217,118

29. There was a further decrease in the coaling business of the Colony during the year as will be seen from the following table:—

Year.	No. of steamers coaled.	No. of tons. taken.
1905	121	20,000
1906	228	46,692
1907	306	70,531
1908	229	54,153
1909	219	53,077

30. This decrease must be attributed to the fact that yellow fever existed in the island during the first six months of the year, and in consequence steamers during that period shunned the port to a great extent.

31. The duty collected on rum for the year ended on the 31st December, 1909, amounted to £27,955, as against £30,665 in 1908, showing a decrease of £2,710.

32. The amount collected for distillers' licences amounted to £399, as compared with £446 in 1908, which added to the amount of duty makes a total revenue from rum made in this Island of £28,354. In 1908 the duty and licences together amounted to £31,111.

33. The rate of duty remains the same as in previous years, viz., 3*s*. for every proof gallon and a further half-penny a gallon of rum sold as licence duty.

34. The number of licences issued during the year was 411 at £5 each, making the sum of £2,055. The value of the licences was, by the Rum Duty Act, 1908, changed from £30, £15, and £10 each to a uniform licence of £5 each.

35. Exclusive of the above, 10 licences of £1 each were issued to druggists to enable them to sell still wines imported in bottles.

36. The sugar crop for the year 1909 was 16,968 hogsheads of muscovado sugar and 827 hogsheads of vacuum pan crystals, and 69,036 puncheons of molasses, of the total value of £498,091. This is 18,037 hogsheads of sugar less and 14,608 puncheons of molasses more than that of the previous year, and the value of these two products is less than that of those for 1908 by £8,057. Owing to the fact that at the present time a considerable quantity of "fancy" molasses is manufactured direct from the juice of the sugar cane, it is impossible, without equating the "fancy" molasses so made into sugar, to get an adequate idea of how the crop compares with that of past years. For some years prior to the time "fancy" molasses was manufactured, it was found that 88 wine gallons of molasses were exported for every ton of sugar shipped; and as the average contents of a puncheon shipped is 110 wine gallons, the quantity of choice molasses from the sugar in 1909 would be 12,457 puncheons, and the remainder, 56,579 puncheons, would therefore be "fancy" molasses. This 56,579 puncheons, on the basis of 315 gallons of "fancy" molasses being equal to one ton of sugar and 88 gallons of molasses, would be equivalent to 22,580 hogsheads of sugar. The total crop for the year 1909, therefore, if no "fancy" molasses had been made, would have been 40,375 hogsheads of sugar, i.e.,

7,169 hogsheads less than the previous year. The value of sugar exported to Canada during the year under review was £107,222, as compared with £95,072 for 1908 or £3,477 more. On the other hand the exports to the United States of America were only £6,477, as compared with £145,272 in 1908 and £16,639 in 1907. As will be remembered the increase in 1908 was, in a great measure, due to the fact that the Cuban crop was likely to be short, refiners in the United States paid such a price for sugar that when the freight from Barbados to New York, which is less than that to Canada, was taken into consideration, it was more remunerative to the planters to sell sugar to the refiners in that country than to those in Canada. Of the remaining quantities of sugar exported, Great Britain took 3,013 hogsheads, of the value of £25,610, as against £25,128 for 1908.

37. The rainfall in December, 1908, and January, 1909, being good, the stand of the young canes planted at the close of 1908 was on the whole satisfactory. The rainfall during the dry season of the year, i.e., from February to the end of May, was below the average, but still sufficient to prevent the canes suffering from the want of rain. The rainy season commenced in June, and the rainfall for that month was 8·21 inches, or nearly 2·5 inches in excess of the average for the sixty years ended 1906. From then on to the end of the year the rainfall, with the exception of the months of October and December, was satisfactory, the former of which was nearly 4 inches and the latter nearly 2·5 inches below the average for the period mentioned above. The rainfall for January, February, and March, 1910, being somewhat below the average, the crop of the Island, which on the whole was good at the close of 1909, was somewhat adversely affected.

38. The cotton industry, I regret again to report, has been somewhat further diminished, as only 4,121 acres were grown in 1909, as compared with 5,768 acres the previous year. The quantity of lint exported for the season 1908-9, i.e., from the 1st October, 1908, to the 30th September, 1909, was 1,713 bales containing 838,748 pounds of lint, of the estimated value of £41,937, as compared with 2,032 bales containing 988,443 pounds of lint, of the estimated value of £66,617 for the year 1907-8. Owing, however, to the remunerative prices now obtained for cotton, it is probable that the area under this crop will not be further decreased. In October, 1909, the Barbados Co-operative Cotton Factory, Limited, commenced to operate the factory which they had been erecting for the extraction of oil from cotton and linseed seed, and for the preparation of cotton cake and linseed meal as stock food.

39. For the year ended December 31st, 1909, 9,272 bunches of bananas were shipped to the United Kingdom. Of these 307 bunches were shipped by the Local Department of Agriculture and 8,965 bunches by Messrs. H. E. Thorne and Son, Limited.

40. In 1909 exhibits of the principal products were forwarded by the Permanent Exhibition Committee for exhibition at the Toronto Fair held between August 30th and September 13th. In previous years a handbook containing historical, agricultural, and general information concerning the Colony was forwarded along with the exhibits, for free distribution to visitors.

This year a résumé of this handbook was incorporated in a handbook of the British West Indies and British Guiana for free distribution, and issued by the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies. As in previous years, the arrangements in Canada were undertaken by Mr. C. S. Pickford, the representative of the firm of Messrs. Pickford and Black, Halifax, and the Colony is again much indebted to that gentleman for the excellent manner in which the exhibits were staged and the West Indian Court decorated.

LEGISLATION.

41. Thirty Acts were passed by the Legislature in 1909, of which the following are the principal:—

No. 1. An Act to amalgamate the Offices of Harbour Master and Shipping Master. Under this Act the fees of Shipping Master, heretofore paid to the Board of Trade in England, are paid into the Colonial Treasury, and by No. 28 the Clerks of the Shipping Master, hitherto paid out of his emoluments as Shipping Master, are paid out of the Colonial Treasury.

No. 22. An Act for printing a new edition of all the Acts of this Island, and

No. 30. An Act to amend the Customs (Establishment) Act, 1905. Under this Act the Customs Staff and, in certain cases, the salaries of officers are increased.

EDUCATION.

42. The total expenditure on education during the year 1909-10 was £17,316.

43. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, receives no legislative grant, but four Island scholarships are annually awarded to the students at the College, each of the value of £40 a year for two years. There were 17 pupils on the roll at the close of the year 1909.

44. The following table shows the statistics relating to first and second grade schools which receive grants from the Treasury:—

Name of School.	Government Grant.	Pupils Fees.	No. of Pupils on Roll.
Boys.	£	£	
Harrison College	1,000	2,311	182
The Lodge	500	723	47
The Combermere	300	993	173
The Coleridge...	100	65	27
The Alleyne	100	1	11
The Parry	100	43	18
The Christ Church Foundation School.	Nil	125	60
Girls.			
The Queen's College	400	676	77
The Alexandra School	125	104	36

45. The primary schools, which numbered 167, were established in connection with the following denominations:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.
				£
Church of England	133	21,504	12,797	8,572
Wesleyan	18	3,084	1,760	1,238
Moravian	16	2,375	1,389	982
Total	167	26,963	15,946	10,792

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

46. The Barbados General Hospital, the only hospital in the Island, is situated in Bridgetown, and receives from the Colonial Government an annual grant of £6,630 for its upkeep. It is managed by a Court of Directors composed of 18 members, of whom 6 are ex-officio, 3 are members of the Legislative Council, 7 are Members of the House of Assembly, and 2 are life members. The ordinary management of the hospital is delegated to a House Committee of 12 members selected from the Court of Directors by that Body.

47. During the year 3,514 persons were treated in the hospital, of whom 310 died. The number of out-patients treated during the same period was 28,212, while the daily average in hospital was 210.

48. The daily average number of prisoners in Glendairy Prison during 1909 was 223—142 males and 81 females. These figures show a slight decrease as compared with 1908. The comparatively small number in prison may be attributed to the steady employment of many thousands of the labouring class in Panama, where, it is estimated, at least 18,000 Barbadian labourers are engaged on the Canal works. The number of prisoners committed for penal imprisonment during 1909 was 1,940, a decrease of 189 on the number of the previous year. Of this number 1,164 had been convicted previously. The discipline of the prison during the year was, as usual, good.

49. In the Government Industrial School there were 120 resident at the 1st January, 1909. During the year under review there were 47 admissions and 41 discharges, leaving 126 resident on 31st December, 1909.

50. The boys are principally employed on agricultural labour in the grounds of the Institution. The total value of the receipts for sugar, cotton, and other products of the institution amounted to £1,508 for the year. The actual cost to the Colony of this institution was, therefore, £807 or £6 10*s.* 2*d.* per head of the daily average number of boys, which was 124.

51. The question of the establishment of a reformatory for girls had not been settled at the end of the year. It was hoped that a definite decision would be arrived at in 1910.

52. The daily average number of patients in the Lunatic Asylum during the year was 371—163 males and 208 females—28 were discharged as cured, 8 as relieved, and 1 not improved, while 46 died. The revenue derived from the Asylum Farm for the year was £709, while the expenditure was £442, leaving a profit of £267.

53. In connection with the Lazaretto 24 acres of land have been acquired from an adjoining estate, and handsome buildings for the accommodation of the male lepers were in course of construction. There were resident in the Lazaretto on the 1st of January, 1909, 117 inmates—52 males and 65 females. During the year 15 patients were admitted and 18 died; the daily average was 114; of this number 53 were anæsthetic and 61 tuberculous.

54. There is no law in Barbados providing for the compulsory segregation of lepers, so that the figures above quoted cannot be considered as correct data of the actual condition of the Island with regard to the disease.

55. Poor Relief is dispensed by the Boards of Poor Law Guardians of the several parishes. Each of the eleven parishes into which the Island is divided, has its own Almshouse and Parochial Medical Officer, except St. Michael, in which there are two Parochial Medical Officers. The total parochial expenditure for this service during the year was £19,356.

56. The Savings Bank continues to do a very large and increasing business. On the 31st December, 1909, the depositors numbered 19,250, an increase of 840 over 1908. The total standing to the credit of the depositors was £339,179, an increase of £27,237 on the previous year. The rate of interest on deposits is 2¾ per cent. Deposits under any account are limited to £1,000.

57. There were 253 Friendly Societies on the register on the 31st December, 1909. There were 41,990 members and 114,664 dependents, or a total of 156,654. The societies exist mainly for the relief of members and their families in time of sickness and to provide funds for funeral expenses.

POST OFFICE.

58. During the year 1909 there were received at the Post Office 1,670 mails, against 1,780 in 1908, and those despatched were 1,549, against 1,612 in 1908. The decreases were due to the fact that during the period of the year in which cases of yellow fever occurred in the Island some of the steamers which called at the port refused to receive mails for ports where they would have been liable to severe quarantine restrictions.

59. Mails were received from the following places by the various lines of steamers as follows:—

From the United Kingdom	112 times.
„ „ United States	129 „
„ Brazil	81 „

60. The postal articles received from abroad amounted to 1,007,269, as against 988,434 in 1908, and the total number of articles despatched was 900,240, as against 916,086 in 1908.

61. Below are given the countries from which the largest number of mails were received.

Brazil and Buenos Ayres	208
Great Britain	157
United States of America	132
British Guiana	88
St. Lucia	83

62. The countries to which the largest number of mails were despatched are as under:—

United States of America	142
Trinidad	128
British Guiana	124
Brazil and Buenos Ayres	111
St. Lucia	84

63. The following lines of steamers brought mails during the year:—

The Armstrong Line (United States and British Guiana).
The Booth Line (United States and Brazil).
The East Asiatic (The United Kingdom, Continental ports, and certain West Indian Colonies).
The Glasgow Line (Glasgow, United Kingdom, and several West Indian Colonies).
The Harrison Line (Liverpool, and certain West Indian Colonies).
Hamburg American Line (New York and Brazil).
Lamport and Holt (New York and Brazil).
Lloyd Braziliero (New York and Brazil).
Leyland Line (Liverpool and West Indian Colonies).
Pickford and Black (Canada and West Indian Colonies).
Prince Line (New York and Brazil).
Royal Mail (Southampton, South American ports, West Indies and New York).
Royal Dutch Mail (New York, British Guiana, and Paramaribo).
Scrutton Line (London and West Indian Colonies).

64. The money orders issued by the Colony amounted to £16,105, showing a decrease of £2,904, as compared with the year 1908. The number of British postal orders issued during the year was 10,575, amounting to £4,008, or an increase of £750, as compared with those issued during 1908. The value of money orders paid in the Colony amounted to £96,707 as compared with £97,154 during the year 1908.

65. The revenue of the Post Office during the year was £7,641 and the expenditure £7,820.

66. The small decrease of £285 in the revenue for the year is due to the falling off in the sale of postage stamps and to the increased use of British postal orders in the place of money orders.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

67. There was a further increase in the criminal statistics for the year 1909 as compared with the figures for 1908.

68. There were 9,975 persons summarily convicted out of a population, estimated on the 31st December, 1909, of 194,496, and 51 persons were convicted and punished on indictment. These figures give a percentage of 5·13 of the estimated population convicted of crime. This percentage, although greater than the previous year, is not considered unsatisfactory, when an analysis of the figures is taken, the large majority of the cases being for trivial offences which were met by the imposition of fines.

69. Of the 51 convictions in the Superior Courts—

2 were for manslaughter.
1 was for attempt at murder.
1 was for murder of wife or concubine.
41 were for offences against property.
5 were for offences against persons.
1 miscellaneous offence.

70. During the year there were 126 cane fires as compared with 134 in the previous year, the majority of which were put down to incendiarism.

71. Forty-four rewards were offered to persons who would give information which would lead to the conviction of the person or persons who set the fires, but without success.

VITAL STATISTICS.

72. The population of the Island on the 31st December, 1909, was estimated at 194,496, but the figures are not reliable, no census having been taken since the year 1891 and no record is kept of persons emigrating.

73. The number of births during the year was 6,163 or 31·6 per 1,000 of the estimated population, as against 36·5 per 1,000 for 1908 and 33·2 for 1907. Illegitimate births continue at a high percentage, being 57·2 per cent. of the births recorded.

74. The number of burials was 4,142 or 1,499 less than in the previous year and 1,094 less than in the year 1907. The death-rate was 2·1 per cent. of the estimated population. The mortality amongst infants under one year was not quite so heavy as in the previous year, being 1,558, or 252 per 1,000 births as against 319 per 1,000 for the year 1908; it is however, still very high, but it is hoped that the instructions with regard to the proper feeding of infants which have been prepared and distributed throughout the Island will in the long run attain the good results for which they were intended.

METEOROLOGY.

75. The barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station, on the average for 1909, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea-level, was at 9 a.m. 29·940 inches and at 3 p.m. 29·882 inches. The highest recorded during the year was 30·038 inches on June 19th, and the lowest 29·717 inches on November 28th. For the ten years 1900-09 inclusive the average barometric pressure under the same conditions was, at 9 a.m. 29·960 inches and at 3 p.m. 29·894 inches. The highest average pressure for that period at 9 a.m. was 30·021 inches and the lowest at 3 p.m. 29·822 inches.

76. The average maximum temperature for the year 1909 was 83·7° F. and the average minimum 75·3° F. The highest temperature for the year was 87·9° F., which was registered on May 17, 18th, and 19th, June 3rd and 4th, and July 25th, and the lowest temperature 65·2° F. on January 11th. The mean average temperature for the year was 79·4° F., the average range 18·7° F., and the maximum range 21·4° F. For the ten years 1900-09 the average maximum temperature was 84·3° F., and the average minimum 76·2° F. The maximum extreme during the ten years was 88·4° F. and the minimum extreme 65·7° F. The mean average temperature for the period of the ten years was 80·2° F. and the average range 18·2° F.

77. The average velocity of the wind during 1909 was 10·3 miles per hour, the maximum being 26·8 miles per hour on February 7th, and the minimum 1·1 miles per hour on July 30th. The average velocity for the ten years ended 1909 was 10·5 miles per hour.

78. The rainfall registered at the Government Meteorological Station during 1909 amounted to 47·06 inches. This fell on 151 days, the greatest fall being 2·44 inches on September 10th, and the lowest ·02 on August 21st, October 24th, and December 28th.

79. The average rainfall for the Island for the year from 157 stations was 57·61 inches, as compared with 44·78 inches from 176 stations for the previous year, and with 62·47 inches from an average of 117 stations for the sixty years ended 1907.

GENERAL REMARKS.

80. The requirements of the Panama Canal continue to supply employment for a large number of Barbadians. Recruiting has become unnecessary as large numbers emigrate without the intervention of an emigration agent. It is estimated that the Barbadian labourers working on the canal and engaged in other occupations in the canal zone at the 31st December, were 18,000 or 20,000 in number. A total of £66,272 was remitted from

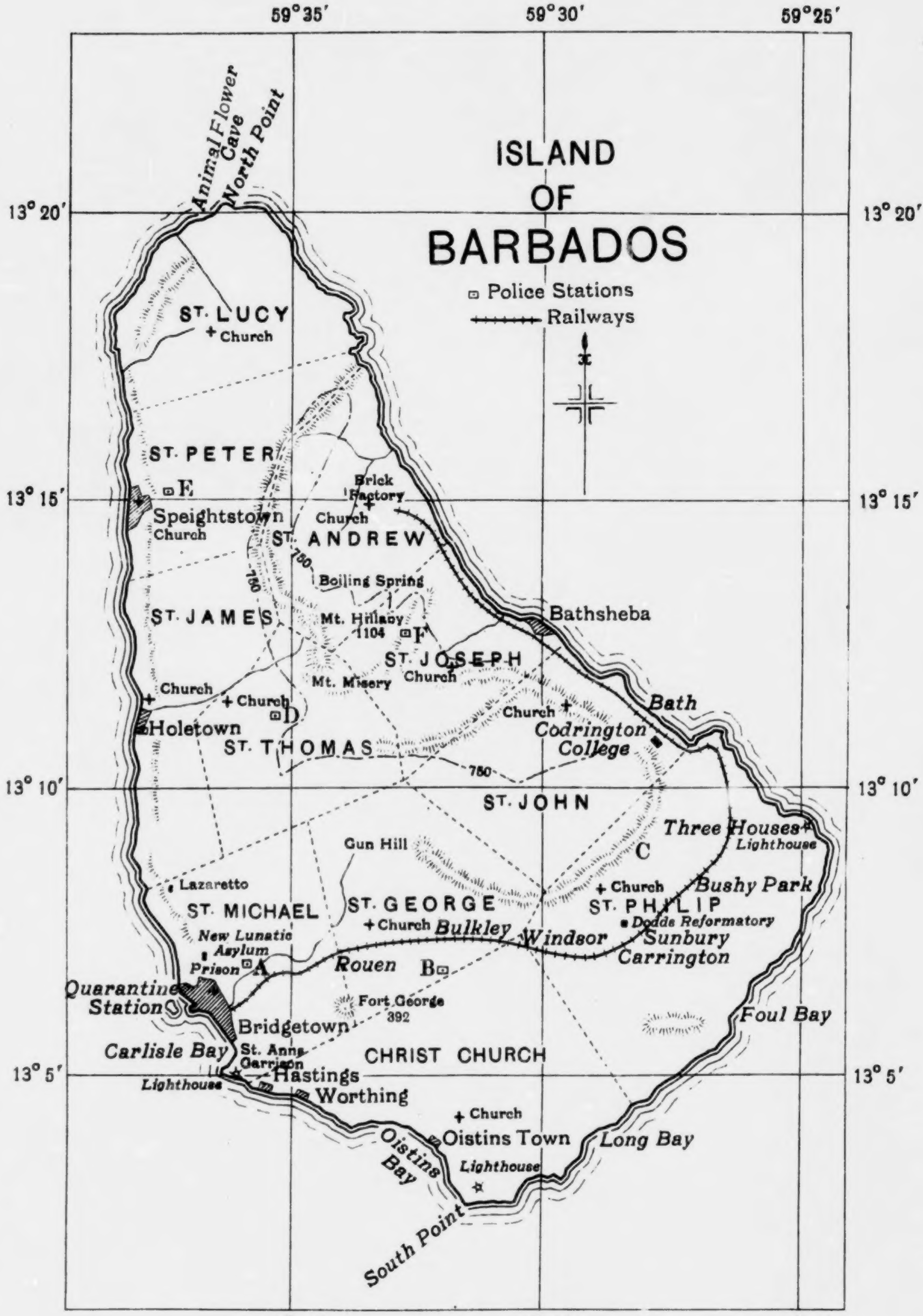
Barbadians in the Panama Canal zone to their relatives and friends in the Island, in the year 1909, a sum greater than that similarly remitted in 1908 by £3,062. In addition 1,552 emigrants returning from Panama, brought with them, in accordance with their declarations to the Harbour Master, £14,820.

81. The yellow fever epidemic which began in 1907, and of which nine cases occurred in January to April, one in October, three in December, 1908, and 83 cases occurred in 1909, came to an end on the 14th August, 1909.

82. The number of tourists who visited the Island in 1909 was greatly in excess of the average of previous years, and for some time the hotels were all full.

EDW. T. GRANNUM,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
12th October, 1910.


59°35'
59°30'
59°25'
ISLAND OF BARBADOS
Police Stations
Railways
13°20'
13°15'
13°10'
13°5'
Animal Flower Cave
North Point
St. LUCY
Church
St. PETER
E
Brick Factory
Speightstown
Church
Church
St. ANDREW
750
750
Boiling Spring
St. JAMES
Mt. Hillaby 1104
F
Bathsheba
St. JOSEPH
Church
Mt. Misery
Church
Church
D
Holetown
St. THOMAS
Bath
Church
Codrington College
750
St. JOHN
Three Houses
Lighthouse
Gun Hill
C
Lazaretto
Church
Bushy Park
St. MICHAEL
St. GEORGE
St. PHILIP
New Lunatic Asylum
Church
Bulkley
Windsor
Dodds Reformatory
Sunbury
Prison
A
Rouen
B
Carrington
Quarantine Station
Fort George 392
Foul Bay
Bridgetown
Carlisle Bay
St. Anns Garrison
CHRIST CHURCH
Hastings
Lighthouse
Worthing
Church
Oistins Town
Long Bay
Oistins Bay
Lighthouse
South Point

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1910

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
622	Straits Settlements	1908
623	Somaliland	1908–1909
624	Mauritius	1908
625	St. Vincent	1908–1909
626	Jamaica	„
627	Swaziland	„
628	Grenada	1908
629	Leeward Islands	1908–1909
630	Southern Nigeria	1908
631	British Honduras	„
632	British Guiana	1908–1909
633	Northern Nigeria	„
634	Basutoland	„
635	East Africa Protectorate	„
636	Uganda	„
637	Weihaiwei	1909
638	St. Helena	„
639	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	„
640	Ashanti	„
641	Gambia	„
642	Malta	1909–1910
643	Seychelles	1909
644	Colonial Survey Committee	1909–1910
645	Falkland Islands	„
646	Turks and Caicos Islands	1909
647	Gibraltar	„
648	Sierra Leone	„
649	Somaliland	1909–1910
650	Bahamas	„
651	Tongan Islands Protectorate	„
652	Bechuanaland Protectorate	„
653	Ceylon	1909
654	Gold Coast	„
655	Nyasaland	1909–1910
656	Imperial Institute	1909
657	Fiji	„
658	Grenada	„
659	Hong Kong	„

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
64	Uganda	Botany and Forestry.
65	Do.	Sleeping Sickness.
66	Gold Coast	Forests.
67	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1905–6.
68	Do. do.	Do. do. 1906–7.
69	St. Helena	Fisheries.
70	Colonies	List of Laws relating to Patents, Trade Marks, &c.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey 1906–7 and 1907–8.

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No. 698.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1910-11.

(For Report for 1909-10, *see* No. 660.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
November, 1911.

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No. 698.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1909–10, *see* No. 660.)

THE GOVERNOR to THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House, Barbados,
16th October, 1911.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit six copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for 1910, together with the report by Major Burdon, the Colonial Secretary, thereon.

I have, &c.,
L. PROBYN,
Governor.

The Right Honourable,
Lewis Harcourt, M.P., P.C.,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BARBADOS BLUE BOOK, 1910-11.

FINANCIAL.

REVENUE.

1. For the year 1910-11—

	£
The revenue was	213,298
The expenditure was	211,949
Giving as surplus	£1,349

The balance to the credit of the general revenue increased from £45,284 at the close of the previous year to £46,633.

2. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years:—

Year.	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
1906-7	204,704	186,016
1907-8	209,817	188,296
1908-9	189,805	198,865
1909-10	195,803	199,625
1910-11	213,298	211,949

The revenue for the year under report, which exceeded that for the previous year by £17,495, is the highest ever raised in the Colony, that for 1899 being considered without the Hurricane Grant-in-Aid of £40,000.

3. No new or additional taxation was imposed during the year. The increase of revenue can only be attributed to the increasing prosperity of the Colony.

4. The principal increases as compared with 1909-10 occurred under the following heads:—

	£
Tonnage	1,567
Import Duties	13,797
Excise	1,644
Post Office	569
Special Receipts	3,118

5. The increase under head "Special Receipts" is due mainly to an increase of £2,982 in deposits paid under the Quarantine Act by arriving passengers. But as will be seen under increases of heads of expenditure the refunds of these deposits have increased by £2,803. The nett increase of revenue under this head is therefore £179. The entries show the very great increase in the number of visitors to the island, a minor contributory cause to its prosperity.

6. The following are the principal heads which show a decrease:—

	£
Port and Harbour Dues	377
Fees of Office	539
Reimbursements in Aid	2,488

7. The decrease in port and harbour dues, occurring simultaneously with an increase in tonnage receipts, requires explanation. Molehead fees, which account for the bulk of the decrease, are paid only by ships entering the Careenage, which are principally sailing vessels. The decrease in these fees this year is to be accounted for by the fact that while more cargo has been dealt with, causing an increase in tonnage dues, it has been landed from, or shipped on, steamers lying in Carlisle Bay, which have not paid molehead fees.

8. The decrease in fees of office is due to the falling off of fees in the offices of the Master in Chancery and Official Assignee, indicating a healthier position in relation to sugar estates and trading houses.

9. The decrease in reimbursements in aid is due to the change by which advances to parishes were transferred in 1909-10 from current account to surplus revenue. There were, therefore, no receipts to the credit of reimbursements in aid under this head during 1910-11.

EXPENDITURE.

10. The expenditure for 1910-11, which exceeded that for the previous year by £12,342, is the highest recorded for the Colony, expenditure due to grants-in-aid being omitted from consideration.

11. The following are the heads under which the increase principally occurred:—

	£
Customs	2,514
Education	1,893
Water-Works	2,148
Pensions	583
Charges of Debt	1,754
Subsidies and Grants:—	
West India Intercolonial Mail Contract	2,625
Miscellaneous services:—	
Refund to passengers under the Quarantine Act	2,803
Repairs to Water Boat "Ida" ...	1,004
Hospital Amendment Act	2,441
Public Works Recurrent	1,525
Department of Agriculture ...	381

12. The main causes of increase are as follows:—

(*a*.) *Customs.*—Some £600 was due to augmentation of staff and increase of salaries; the remaining £1,900 was due to an increase in drawbacks resulting from increased trade.

(*b*.) *Education.*—An increased grant-in-aid to elementary schools accounts for £1,556, the introduction of ragged schools for £69, the training of teachers for £51, and first grade exhibitions for £43.

(c.) *Water-Works.*—The increase is due chiefly to excesses of expenditure as follows:—

	£
Increased pumping due to drought	900
Repairs	354
Contribution to fund for renewal of water boats	700

(*d.*) *Charges of Debt.*—Increase of interest due to increased loan and the omission during 1909-10 to remit for investment £1,600 under the Public Works Loan Act, £600 of which was on account of the establishment of an industrial school at Summervale.

(*e.*) *West India Intercolonial Mail Contract.*—The payment during 1910-11 of three-fourths of the subsidy for the previous year.

(*f.*) *Hospital Amendment Act.*—A special grant to the General Hospital.

(*g.*) *Public Works Recurrent.*—The expenses of docking and repairing the dredger and barges and the working of the Clayton fumigating barge "Hygeia."

13. The heads of expenditure which show appreciable decrease are:—

(*a.*) Public Library, £330, which sum represents the purchase of law books during the previous year.

(*b.*) Medical Departments, £1,677, which was expended in the previous year owing to yellow fever.

(*c.*) Public Works Extraordinary, £671.

PUBLIC DEBT.

14. During the year the public debt has risen from £416,900 to £422,900, the increase being due to the borrowing of £6,000 under the Public Works Loan Act in aid of the cost of extension of the water supply to the higher levels.

The sinking fund has increased from £77,865 to £85,940. The actual liability on March 31st, 1911, was, therefore, £2,075 less than at the end of the previous financial year.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

TRADE.

15. The following table shows the trade of the Colony for 1910 compared with that of the previous year:—

	1910. £	1909. £
Value of imports	1,345,194	1,119,343
Value of exports	1,088,830	888,086
Excess of imports over exports	256,364	231,257

16. The following is a comparative table for the last two years, showing the countries from which imports chiefly came, with the value of the importations, respectively:—

Country.	1910. £	1909. £
United Kingdom	592,641	480,823
United States	399,649	355,809
Canada	151,985	131,910
British West Indies ...	60,539	51,330
British Guiana	47,348	45,361
India	9,722	—
Foreign West Indies ...	12,288	6,505
France	5,151	3,255
Brazil	4,755	8,321
Newfoundland	10,494	10,555
Other places	50,622	35,474
	£1,345,194	1,119,343

17. It will be observed from the above that in the year 1910—

44 per cent. of the imports came from the United Kingdom;
30 per cent. came from the United States;
11 per cent. of the imports came from Canada;
5 per cent. of the imports came from the British West Indies;
10 per cent. of imports came from all other places.

18. The following table gives the value of articles imported from Canada and contrasts the figures with those of the previous year.

The following articles show an increase:—

	1910. £	1909. £
Oats	7,266	2,880
Iron nails	2,435	1,299
Staves and shooks ...	4,086	3,354
Beef, pork (salted) ...	1,961	1,319
Cordage	967	956
Flour	31,144	21,786
Fruit and vegetables ...	3,912	1,607
Grain	4,626	2,441
White pine	31,409	29,843
Shingles	12,856	10,955

The following articles show a decrease:—

	£	£
Fish	21,311	25,813
Bran	1,215	1,291
Butter	1,064	1,238
Sulphate of ammonia...	16,844	19,566
Hay	759	783

19. The following table gives a comparison of the value of exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony, with that

of exports the produce and manufacture of British and foreign countries:—

	1910.	1909.
	£	£
Produce, &c. of the Colony ...	783,125	576,330
Produce, &c. of other countries	305,705	311,756

While the export of goods originating from other countries has decreased by £6,051, exports which owe their origin to the Colony have increased by £206,795.

The principal heads of increase and decrease are:—

	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
Sugar	243,092	—
Molasses	—	34,292
Cotton (raw)	—	4,126

20. The comparison of sugar and molasses shipments with those of the previous year is as follows:—

—	1910.	1909.	Increase.	Decrease.
Muscovado Sugar:				
Hogsheads	35,906	16,968	18,938	—
Value ... ... £	350,084	144,228	205,856	—
Dry Sugar:				
Hogsheads	3,993	827	3,166	—
Value ... ... £	45,920	8,684	37,236	—
Molasses:				
Puncheons	77,722	69,036	8,686	—
Value ... ... £	310,888	345,180	—	34,292

Nett increase in value of above exports £208,800.

21. The large increase in dry sugar (dark crystals) points to rapid progress towards modern methods of sugar manufacture. The progress, however, was not as great as might be inferred from the figures. The increase is due largely to the adoption of a more accurate system of Customs declaration.

22. In the case of cotton, the product next in order of importance, the comparison of exports is:—

—	1910.	1909.	Decrease.
Cotton (raw) ... ... lbs.	589,118	830,117	229,799
Value ... ... £	36,820	40,946	4,126

The consideration of this decrease will be found under "Agriculture," in paragraph 40.

23. The principal places to which products of the Colony have been exported, as compared with the previous year, are:—

—	1910.	1909.	Increase.
	£	£	Per cent.
United Kingdom	117,223	70,487	66·3
Canada...	484,108	348,707	38·8
United States of America	77,650	37,219	108·6
			Decrease.
Newfoundland	58,991	72,002	18·1

24. The destination of the bulk of the sugar has been:—

	1910.	1909.
	£	£
United Kingdom	67,483	25,611
Canada	268,455	107,222
United States of America	45,176	6,477
Holland	4,963	7,166

and of molasses:—

United Kingdom	10,096	2,725
Canada	215,256	241,325
United States of America	26,388	24,670
Newfoundland	58,268	71,560

Taking the value of the two products together, the following table gives the percentage of increase and decrease for 1910:—

	Increase. per cent.	Decrease. per cent.
United Kingdom	173·8	—
Canada	38·8	—
United States of America ...	129·8	—
Holland	—	30·7
Newfoundland	—	18·6

25. The transit export trade shows a decrease of £6,051 as compared with 1909. The figures for the past five years are:—

	£
1906	303,647
1907	321,515
1908	340,173
1909	311,756
1910	305,705

SHIPPING.

26. The following table gives the shipping entered at Bridgetown for 1909 and 1910:—

—	1910.		1909.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Steamers	745	1,533,188	550	1,133,800
Sailing Vessels	767	165,109	671	83,318
Total	1,512	1,698,297	1,221	1,217,118

This shows an increase during 1910 of:—

	Number.	Tonnage.
Steamers	195	399,388
Sailing vessels ...	96	81,971
Total	291	481,179

27. The increase in tonnage of sailing vessels, which is out of all proportion to the increase in their number, is due to the greater individual tonnage of sailing vessels which have entered and cleared in ballast, calling for orders only.

The theory advanced above, paragraph 7, to account for the decrease in port and harbour dues, is not inconsistent with the increase shown under sailing vessels. The larger sized sailing vessels seldom enter the Careenage: those calling for orders never do so. Such ships would, therefore, contribute little to port and harbour dues.

28. The nationality of the ships entered during the two years was:—

—	1910.		1909.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British	1,147	1,276,865	1,017	980,133
Foreign	365	421,432	204	236,985
Total	1,512	1,698,297	1,221	1,217,118

The increase per cent. has therefore been:—

	Ships.	Tonnage.
British	12·8	30·3
Foreign	78·9	77·8

29. The following figures show the progress of the coaling business:—

	Steamers coaled.	Tons taken.
1906	227	46,284
1907	306	70,531
1908	229	54,153
1909	219	53,077
1910	272	65,098

The increase shows recovery from the set-back caused by quarantine restrictions in 1908 and 1909, but the business has not yet regained the position reached in 1907.

INDUSTRIES.

30. The amount of rum manufactured during the past two years was:—

	1910.	1909.
Gallons	226,169	207,239

being an increase of 18,930 gallons for 1910.

31. The number of licences to retail liquors increased from 411 in 1909 to 453 in 1910.

32. Of the 332 sugar estates in the Colony, the number of those which have steam works has increased from 101 in 1909 to 107 in 1910.

33. The output of manjak, as shown by the export returns, has fallen from 342 tons in 1909 to 174 tons in 1910.

34. The export of oleomargarine manufactured in the Colony has fallen from 194,100 lbs. in 1909 to 75,200 lbs. in 1910.

35. The export of Barbados bread has risen from 657,949 lbs. in 1909 to 768,134 lbs. in 1910.

36. The Antilles cotton ginnery, a reference to which appears in the Blue Book for 1909-10, was destroyed by fire in July, 1910. One of the partners, however, has since erected a new cotton ginnery and oil plant which is being operated under the title of Ernest Thorne, Limited.

37. The progress of the cotton ginning industry appears under "Trade," paragraph 22, and "Agriculture," paragraph 40 *et seq.*

AGRICULTURE.

38. The sugar crop for the year 1910 was 35,906 hogsheads of muscovado sugar, 3,993 hogsheads of vacuum pan crystals, and 77,722 puncheons of molasses. This is 22,104 hogsheads of sugar and 8,686 puncheons of molasses more than that of the previous year. Owing to the fact that at the present time a considerable quantity of what is known as "fancy" molasses is manufactured direct from the juice of the sugar cane, it is impossible without equating the fancy molasses so made into sugar to get an adequate idea of how the sugar crop compares with those of past years. To arrive at this it may be stated that for some years prior to the time when fancy molasses was manufactured, it was found that 88 wine gallons of molasses was exported for every ton of sugar shipped, and as the average contents of a puncheon is 110 wine gallons, the quantity of choice molasses from the sugar exported in 1910 would be 27,930 puncheons and the remainder, 49,792 puncheons, would therefore be fancy molasses. These 49,792 puncheons, on the basis of 315 gallons of fancy molasses being equal to one ton of sugar with its molasses, would be equivalent to 19,872 hogsheads of sugar. The total crop for the year 1910, therefore, if no fancy molasses had been made, would have been 59,771 hogsheads, that is, 19,396 hogsheads more than the previous year.

39. The rainfall in November, 1909, being fairly good, the young canes planted during the latter part of that month and in the earlier part of December germinated on the whole satisfactorily, but the cuttings that were put in later on in December, owing to the fact that the rainfall for that month was hardly more than half the average quantity, did not grow so well. The rainfall during the dry season of the year, *i.e.*, from February to the end of May, was above the average, that for May being 13·44 inches, the highest on record for that month; so that when the usual rainy season set in in June the canes were well advanced, healthy, and vigorous. Favourable weather conditions then prevailed until the latter part of October, 1910, when a drought set in, which lasted practically until the beginning of the new year: the rainfall for November being only 3·15 inches and that for December only 4·51 inches, which is much below the average for the sixty years ended 1906. In consequence of this, the canes which up to the middle of October gave promise of a heavy yield were adversely affected.

40. The figures in the Blue Book show the total cotton exported for the year 1910, the comparison of which with the previous year is given under " Trade " in paragraph 22.

41. For the acreage which was reaped during the year, viz., 4,121 acres, as compared with the crop of the 5,768 acres of the previous year, the results were:—

—	1910.	1909.	Decrease.
Lbs.	644,279	838,748	194,469
Value ... ... £	38,549	41,937	3,388

The difference between the above figures and those shown by the exports for the year, is due to the fact that the reaping and shipment season for any one crop extends from 1st October in one year to the 30th of September of the following year. In this paragraph I am examining the results of the crop and not the year's export.

42. The decrease by 1,647 acres of the area reaped during the year was due to the low price and poor yields obtained in 1908. Owing to the remunerative price obtained towards the close of 1909 and during 1910, the area planted with cotton increased in 1910 to 4,741 acres, the result of which will be apparent in the 1911 crop.

43. For the year ended December 31st, 1910, 13,137 bunches of bananas were shipped to the United Kingdom. Of these 196 bunches were shipped by the local Department of Agriculture, and 12,941 bunches by Messrs. H. E. Thorne and Sons, Limited, and by Messrs. Ernest Thorne, Limited.

44. In 1910, two sets of exhibits, mainly of the principal products of the Island, were forwarded by the Permanent Exhibition Committee for exhibition at the Toronto Fair, between August 27th and September 9th, and to an Exhibition held at St. John, N.B., between September 5th and 14th. Previous to 1910, a handbook containing historical, agricultural, and general in-

formation concerning the Colony was forwarded along with the exhibits for free distribution to visitors. For the last two years, however, a résumé of this handbook has been incorporated in a handbook of the British West Indies and British Guiana by the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture for the West Indies for free distribution. The arrangements in Canada were undertaken by Mr. C. S. Pickford, a representative of the firm of Messrs. Pickford and Black, and Mr. W. N. Sands, the Agricultural Superintendent of St. Vincent. Mr. Sands was sent on a special mission to these Exhibitions to assist in arranging the exhibits and to afford information to visitors concerning the resources of the various colonies and their capacity for trade, &c., and the Colony is much indebted to these two gentlemen for their assistance in the matter.

LEGISLATION.

45. Thirty-four Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year under review, of which the following are the principal:—

No. 8. An Act to amend the Barbados General Hospital Act, 1890. This Act makes provision for: (i) an additional grant of money annually from the public treasury towards the upkeep of the institution (section 2); (ii) two additional resident surgeons (section 3); and (iii) a grant of £8,000 for the purpose of extending the limits of the hospital, and erecting, adding to, or improving the buildings on the lands of the hospital or lands to be acquired, and for the purchase of furniture, &c., in consequence of the proposed extension of that institution.

No. 16. An Act to amend the law by making better provision for the widows of certain intestates in the distribution of such intestates' property. This Act provides that on the death of an intestate the whole of his real and personal estate, if it does not exceed £500, shall belong to his widow absolutely and exclusively if there be no issue.

No. 17. An Act to provide for taking a census of Barbados in the year one thousand nine hundred and eleven.

No. 24. An Act to amend the Savings Bank Act, 1890, and the Savings Bank (Amendment) Act, 1901. This Act increases the clerical staff of the bank and their salaries, and increases the rate of interest to depositors from 2¾ to 3 per cent.

EDUCATION.

46. The total expenditure under this head in 1910-11 was £19,209, an increase of £1,893 on the previous year.

47. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, receives no legislative grant, but provision is made on the annual Estimates for the award of four island scholarships

annually to the students of the college, each of the value of £40 a year and tenable for two years. There were 13 scholars on the roll at the end of 1910.

48. The following table shows the statistics relating to first and second grade schools which receive legislative grants annually:—

Name.	Government Grant.	Pupils' Fees.	No. of Pupils on Rolls.
Boys.	£	£	
Harrison College	1,000	2,332	172
The Lodge School	500	667	52
The Combermere School	300	962	171
The Coleridge School	100	95	20
The Alleyne School	100	25	12
The Parry School	100	72	25
The Christ Church Foundation School	100	117	54
Girls.			
The Queen's College	400	718	87
The Alexandra School	175	140	42

49. The primary schools, which numbered 166, were established in connection with the following denominations:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.
				£
Church of England	132	22,055	13,453	8,920
Wesleyan...	18	3,188	1,931	1,313
Moravian...	16	2,415	1,445	1,031
Total (1910)	166	27,658	16,829	11,264
Total (1909)	167	26,963	15,946	10,792

50. At the close of 1910 there were four ragged schools with 285 scholars on the roll and having an average attendance of 173. The amount of the legislative grants to these schools was £55 8*s.* 7*d.* for the year.

51. Provision is also made for an annual scholarship called the Barbados scholarship, of the value of £175 a year, tenable for four years during membership at one of the Universities of Europe or Canada, or at any agricultural or technical college in Europe or America as may be approved by the local Board of Education.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

52. The Barbados General Hospital, situated in Bridgetown, is maintained by Government grant, but is not directly under

Government control. It is governed by a Court of Directors of 18, of whom 16 are so either ex-officio or by appointment from the Legislature and the remaining two are life members.

53. For the year 1910 the Government grant was £7,254, the increase over 1909 being due to the additional grant authorised by the Legislature, as mentioned in paragraph 45. There were 3,602 admissions, 316 deaths, and 25,039 out-patients. The daily average in hospital was 205.

54. The new buildings of the Lazaretto were completed and opened during 1910. The number of inmates at the end of the year was 114, the same as on January 1st, the number of deaths, 11, being balanced by the same number of admissions. The average daily number was 115.

55. There is no compulsory segregation of lepers by law.

56. In the Lunatic Asylum the daily average number of patients rose from 371 in 1909 to 401 in 1910. 35 patients were discharged during the year as cured and 44 died. The revenue from the Asylum Farm was £664, and the expenditure thereon £450, leaving a profit of £214.

57. The daily average number of prisoners in Glendairy Prison was 210 for 1910, as compared with 223 for 1909. The number of persons committed to penal imprisonment was 1,785, a decrease of 159 on the figure for 1909. This shows a continuance of the decrease under this head recorded last year.

58. The number of boys in the Government Industrial School rose from 126 at the close of 1909 to 134 on December 31st, 1910, with a daily average of 135. The boys are employed in agricultural or other manual labour for an average of six hours a day, and in school for 2½ hours a day.

59. The proceeds of the agricultural work of the school amounted to £1,937, the expenditure to £2,483, which makes the cost of the institution to the Colony £546, or £4 0*s*. 11*d*. per boy.

60. The establishment of an industrial school for girls at Summervale was decided on, and the work of altering the existing house for its inmates was begun during the latter half of the year.

61. The expenditure on Poor Relief, dispensed by the Boards of Guardians of the eleven parishes of the Island, amounted during 1910 to £20,092, as compared with £19,356 in 1909.

62. The following table shows the progress of the Savings Bank during the year:—

—	31st December, 1910.	31st December, 1909.	Increase.
Depositors	19,979	19,250	729
	£	£	£
Amount due to depositors ...	399,523	339,179	60,344
Assets, based on value at date...	401,249	346,382	54,867

63. Having regard to the condition of the bank the Legislature authorised the increase of the rate of interest from 2¾ per cent. to

3 per cent. This increase did not take effect until January 1st, 1911.

64. The following table shows the progress of Friendly Societies for the relief of members and their families in sickness and the provision of funds for funeral expenses:—

	Dec. 31, 1910.	Dec. 31, 1909.
Number of societies	268	253
Number of members and dependants	172,426	156,654

In considering the number of members and dependants it must be remembered that persons may belong to more than one society.

POST OFFICE.

65. The following table gives the comparison of postal statistics for 1909 and 1910:—

—	External.		
	1910.	1909.	Increase.
Inwards.			
Number of mails	1,734	1,670	64
Number of bags, &c.	4,004	3,473	531
Number of letters	1,102,021	1,007,269	94,752
Number of parcels	15,028	13,277	1,751
Outwards.			
Number of mails	1,800	1,549	251
Number of bags	2,826	2,498	328
Number of letters	983,976	900,240	83,736
Number of parcels	4,889	4,626	263

66. The year 1910 has been a record one at the Post Office, but the great increase shown above over 1909 is due to the quarantine difficulties during that year.

67. The number of internal letters and parcels dealt with was estimated at 841,823, as compared with an estimated 848,542 for 1909.

68. The number of mails received in transit fell from 3,423 bags, &c. in 1909 to 3,208 in 1910, the decrease being probably due to the discontinuance of the Royal Mail Direct Service from Southampton to Barbados which occurred during November and December, 1910.

69. Remittances through the Post Office are shown by the following table:—

—	1910.	1909.	Increase.
Issued.	£	£	£
Money Orders...	16,738	16,105	633
Postal Orders	5,128	4,008	1,120
Paid.			
Money Orders	93,362	90,707	2,655
Postal Orders	5,597	5,166	431

70. The principal places of origin and destination of money orders have varied from the previous year as follows:—

Destination of Money Orders issued.	1910.	1909.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Great Britain	7,242	8,300	—	1,058
United States of America	4,307	2,990	1,317	—
Place of origin of Money Orders paid.				
Canal Zone	62,281	66,272	—	3,991
United States of Americ	15,078	14,006	1,072	—

71. The comparison of revenue and expenditure for the two years is:—

—	1910.	1909.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Revenue	8,343	7,641	702
Expenditure	9,031	7,820	1,211
Excess of Expenditure over Revenue.	688	179	509

The increase in expenditure for 1910 is largely due to the payment during 1910 of gratuities on ship letters for 1909.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

72. The comparison with the previous years is:—

—	1910.	1909.	Decrease.
Summary convictions	9,888	9,975	87
Convictions in Superior Courts ...	40	54	14

73. The percentage of convictions to an estimated population of 171,417 is 5·79. The percentage shown in the Blue Book is incorrect, being based on an erroneous estimate of population. The same applies to the percentages for previous years. No comparison is therefore possible in this particular. But the actual decrease in convictions is satisfactory indication of a decrease in crime, the decrease in prædial larceny being especially noticeable.

74. The number of cane fires fell from 126 in 1909 to 95 in 1910. In the majority incendiarism was suspected, but in no case was a conviction obtained.

VITAL STATISTICS.

75. The population of the Colony on December 31st, 1910, was estimated to be 69,912 males and 101,505 females, total 171,417. These figures are computed from the report of the Census taken on April 2nd, 1911, the figures for which are those appearing in the Blue Book.

76. It will be seen that the figures based on the Census show a reduction of some 23,000 on the estimated population for the previous year. It is evident that the previous estimates were incorrect. The cause was largely due to absence of reliable information as to emigration. Arrangements have now been made to secure accurate returns on this point.

77. The comparison of births and deaths with those of the previous year is:—

—	1910.	1909.	Increase.
Births	6,381	6,163	218
Burials...	4,383	4,142	241

The birth-rate for 1910 was 37·2 per 1,000, and the death-rate 25·5 per 1,000.

78. The marriage rate was 10·3 per 1,000. Illegitimate births numbered 3,751, or 58·8 per cent. of the total births.

79. The mortality amongst children under a year old was 1,709 or 268 per 1,000 births. The rate per 1,000 was 252 in 1909 and 319 in 1908.

METEOROLOGY.

80. The barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station on the average for 1910, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea level, was at 9 a.m. 29·954 inches, and at 3 p.m. 29·894 inches. The highest recorded during the year was 30·021

inches on February 17th and April 13th, and the lowest 29·767 inches on October 31st. For the ten years 1901-10 inclusive, the average barometric pressure under the same conditions was at 9 a.m. 29·959 inches and at 3 p.m. 29·894. The highest average pressure for that period at 9 a.m. was 30·019 inches and the lowest at 3 p.m. 29·823 inches.

81. The average maximum temperature for the year 1910 was 84·1° F., and the average minimum 75·4° F. The highest temperature for the year was 89·2° F., registered on April 17th, and the lowest temperature was 64·2° F. on February 2nd and 3rd. The mean average temperature for the year was 79·8° F., the average range 19·4° F., the maximum range 24·6° F., and the minimum range 17·2° F. For the ten years 1901-10 the average maximum temperature was 84·3° F. and the average minimum 76·0° F. The maximum extreme during the ten years was 87·2° F. and the minimum extreme 68·5° F. The mean average temperature for the ten years was 80·1° F., and the average range 18·8° F.

82. The average velocity of the wind during 1910 was 12·2 miles per hour, the maximum being 26·6 miles per hour on February 22nd and the minimum 3·1 miles per hour on October 6th. The average velocity for the ten years ended 1910 was 10·7 miles per hour.

83. The rainfall registered at the Government Meteorological Station amounted to 40·63 inches. This fell on 154 days, the greatest fall being 2·30 inches on May 14th, and the lowest ·01 on August 9th, September 15th, and November 25th.

84. The average rainfall for the Island for the year from 163 stations was 60·34 inches, as compared with 57·61 inches from 157 stations for the previous year, and with 62·47 inches from an average of 117 stations for the sixty years ended 1907.

GENERAL REMARKS.

85. Recruiting for labour on the Panama Canal fell off during the year, and 2,048 Barbadians returned thence, as compared with 1,552 in the previous year.

86. The following table shows the money brought to the Island from the Canal Zone:—

——	1910.	1909.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
By Money Orders...	62,281	66,272	—	3,991
Declared by returning Barbadians	20,604	14,820	5,784	—

Nett Increase, £1,793.

87. The Island was free from any outbreak of quarantinable disease during the year.

88. In November, 1910, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company discontinued their fortnightly mail and passenger service to this Colony and also their use of Bridgetown as the port of transfer for passengers and cargo destined for other West Indian ports. In February, 1911, the fortnightly service from Southampton to Barbados recommenced but the port did not resume its position as the place of transfer.

89. There can be no doubt but that the Colony sustained a serious financial loss both by the break in the main line connection and the loss of the transhipment service. But the prosperity in other directions has so greatly advanced that the revenue shows no loss to prove this contention. The only apparent reduction of revenue was a falling off in receipts for water supplied to shipping. The great personal discomfort incurred by the population and the great inconvenience to commerce are facts remembered by the sufferers but not items on financial returns.

90. The figures throughout this report bear witness to the increase of prosperity in the Colony during the year. The main source of this prosperity was, of course, the staple product of the Island, sugar and molasses. But the sugar crop of 1910, though good and realising good prices, was not sufficiently superior to all former crops to account for the prosperity indicated by a record revenue, raised without any extra taxation. Less still can the increase in revenue be attributed to cotton or the minor products and manufactures of the Colony. Nor can the slight increase in money received from Panama be held sufficient explanation.

91. It is, I think, legitimately to be inferred that the Colony owes much of its increasing prosperity to the visitors who stay in the Island. These visitors would also help to account for the great and growing excess of imports over exports.

92. The visitors may be divided into two categories—

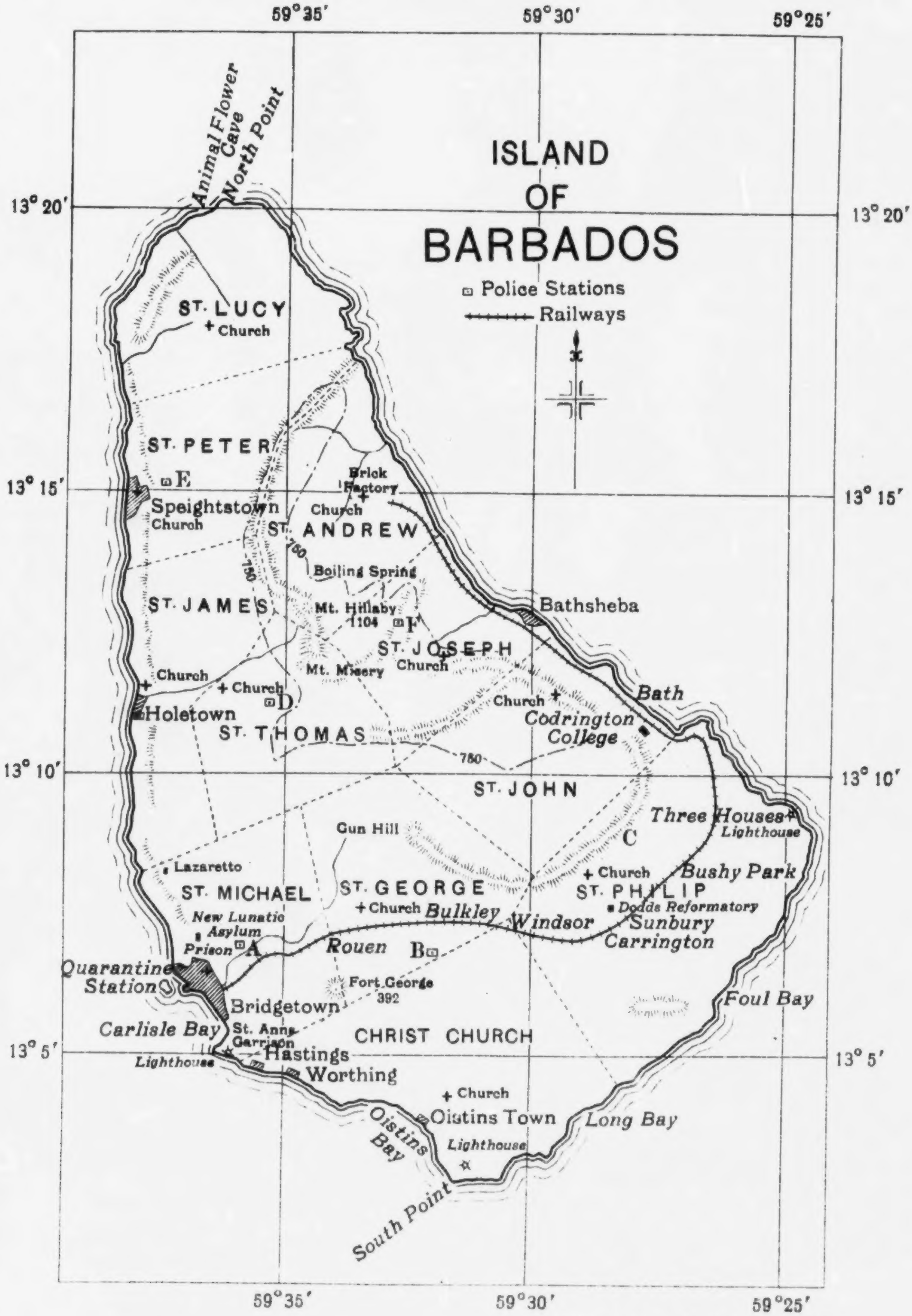
(*a*.) Tourists from Europe and North America who stay at the principal hotels of the Island during the winter months.

(*b*.) Visitors from South America, particularly Brazil, who rent houses near the sea during their stay, which is generally of considerable duration.

93. There are no statistics available to differentiate between these two categories, but the following table will show the increase in passengers arriving in the Island, not including those in transit:—

—	1910.	1909.	Increase.
First and Second Class	5,491	3,552	1,939
Steerage and Deck	12,441	8,212	4,229

94. If, as is to be inferred from paragraphs 85 and 86, each labourer returning from Panama brings some £11 with him to spend in the Island, the above 18,000 arrivals for 1910, the great majority visitors, must represent a very considerable amount of


ISLAND
OF
BARBADOS
Police Stations
Railways
59°35′
59°30′
59°25′
13°20′
13°15′
13°10′
13°5′
Animal Flower Cave
North Point
ST. LUCY
Church
ST. PETER
E
Speightstown
Church
Brick Factory
Church
ST. ANDREW
750
Boiling Spring
ST. JAMES
Mt. Hillaby
1104
F
ST. JOSEPH
Church
Mt. Misery
Bathsheba
Church
Church
Holetown
D
Church
Bath
Codrington College
ST. THOMAS
750
ST. JOHN
Three Houses
Lighthouse
C
Gun Hill
Lazaretto
ST. MICHAEL
ST. GEORGE
Church
ST. PHILIP
Bushy Park
Church
Bulkley
Windsor
Dodds Reformatory
Sunbury
Carrington
New Lunatic Asylum
Prison
A
Rouen
B
Quarantine Station
Fort George
392
Bridgetown
Foul Bay
Carlisle Bay
St. Anns Garrison
CHRIST CHURCH
Hastings
Lighthouse
Worthing
Church
Oistins Town
Long Bay
Oistins Bay
Lighthouse
South Point

Ordnance Survey, Southampton 1911

money brought from abroad as an addition to the wealth of the community.

95. There can be no question as to the value of the indirect contribution which both classes of visitor make to the revenue of the Island. The Government has so far taken no steps, other than advertisement of the Island through the kind offices of the West India Committee, to encourage or enlarge this valuable source of wealth and revenue.

J. A. Burdon,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
16th October, 1911.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
675	St. Helena	1910
676	Gibraltar	"
677	Basutoland	1909–1910
678	Weihaiwei	1910
679	Gambia	"
680	Ashanti	"
681	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
682	Falkland Islands	"
683	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
684	Bahamas	1910–1911
685	Colonial Survey Committee	"
686	Malta	"
687	Imperial Institute	1910
688	Gold Coast	"
689	Fiji	"
690	Somaliland	"
691	Hong Kong...	"
692	Nyasaland	1910–1911
693	Seychelles	1910
694	Sierra Leone	"
695	Southern Nigeria	"
696	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1910–1911
697	Swaziland	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
71	Imperial Institute	Foodstuffs.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Island.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Surveys, 1906–7 and 1907–8.
75	West Indies...	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.

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No. 748.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1911-12.

(For Report for 1910–11, *see* No. 698.)

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Map.

No. 748.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1910-11, *see* No. 698.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Barbados,
21st December, 1912.

SIR,

1. I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith six copies of the Blue Book of the Colony for the year 1911-12 together with the report thereon which has been prepared by the Colonial Secretary.

2. The report is satisfactory in that it shows a material increase in the general revenue, and it is interesting because it discloses the fact that the cause of this increase is the subject of much conjecture. Various theories have been advanced in explanation of the increase. It is attributed to the large amount of money remitted to the island by Barbadian emigrants, and especially by the labourers who are employed at Panama; it is accounted for as being the result of the expenditure made by visitors during their stay in Barbados; but although each of these conditions had undoubtedly had a stimulating effect upon revenue, there are many people, not excluding some experts, who consider that an important factor in the prosperity has been the continued stability in trade, and it was for this reason that common accord existed, at the end of the year, when a delegate was sent to Ottawa with instructions to endeavour to secure a stable and permanent market for sugar, by supporting the proposed Reciprocity Treaty with Canada. As a result of the conference at Ottawa the Canada and West Indies Reciprocity (Tariff) Agreement Act, 1912, has been passed by the legislature of Barbados, and both in the Blue Book and in the report which is now forwarded there is information which proves that the Reciprocity Treaty will have no adverse effect upon one matter which is of paramount importance to the prosperity of Barbados—the cost of living in the case of the Barbadian labourer.

3. It is almost impossible to affirm with respect to any given article on the import list that it will be consumed exclusively by the rich or exclusively by the poor. For example, perfumery is imported to the value of £4,086. It is universally regarded as

a luxury, but in Barbados it is a noticeable fact that this luxury is enjoyed by many amongst the masses. I propose, therefore, to ignore all imports except those food-stuffs which the Barbadian labourer is known to buy with regularity, namely, bread, cornmeal, or Indian meal, rice, flour, fish. The aggregate annual consumption of all these food-stuffs amounts, approximately, to 172 lbs. per head of the entire population; of this amount rice accounts for 61 lbs., and in the case of this commodity the new tariff will not affect the consumer, because no change has been made in the import duty. In the case of bread and cornmeal (approximate aggregate consumption 57 lbs. per head) the consumer stands to gain in future, because the only change made by the new tariff is that it reduces the import duty in the case of bread and meal imported from British countries. Of fish it is sufficient to state that practically all comes from Newfoundland or from Canada, and that in the case of fish thus imported there will be no change in the duty.

4. The last item on my selected list is flour, and this article is affected by the new tariff in two different ways. Thus, if imported from a non-British country—for example, the United States—it will be subject to duty at the rate of 4*s*. 9*d*. per barrel of 196 lbs., instead of 4*s*. 2*d*., the amount which is levied at present, but if it is imported from any British country (including Canada) it will pay a lesser duty than heretofore, viz., only 3*s*. 9*d*. per barrel of the same weight. Hitherto the importations of flour from the United States have been equal to those from Canada and, as every "cent" is of importance to the thrifty Barbadian labourer, it is necessary to consider whether the latter is likely to gain or to lose under the preferential tariff. It is obvious that he will gain should Canada supply the commodity in such abundance as to induce competition: the latter is very keen in Barbados, but even if Canada is unable to oust American flour from the Barbadian market it by no means follows that there will be any increase in the goodman's household expenditure. I have already pointed out that the aggregate consumption of the principal imported food-stuffs is only 172 lbs. per head per annum, a fact which shows that the masses do not depend upon imports, but obtain a large proportion of their food from provisions—sweet potatoes, yams, &c.—which are grown in the island, and thus it may be reasonably inferred that, should the supply of Canadian flour not be abundant, the labourer will be able to avoid increased expenditure by electing to consume a little more of the cheap, locally grown food. Another reason may be advanced to show that the labourer's position is secure, and this reason is of special interest, because it is founded upon one of his habits. His wife is accustomed to avoid the inconvenience of baking bread or of buying baked bread in small quantities; she obviates these troubles by purchasing biscuits named "Admirals," "Commodores," "Middies," &c., and so popular are these biscuits that they are universally called "bread" and are thus designated both in the Blue Book and in the report. The fact is that the poorer classes are more interested in "bread" (*i.e.*, biscuits) and cornmeal than in flour, and with respect to "bread" the labourer is secured in two ways. If

that commodity is imported the duty, as already stated, may be less, but cannot be more than at present; on the other hand, if the "bread" is manufactured locally it will not be affected by the duty on flour, because the manufacture will be carried out, as at present, in bond, and when the Customs authorities come to levy duty upon the manufactured article they will treat the latter as "bread" and not as flour. There is another fact concerning locally manufactured "bread" which is of importance. If the Customs authorities are assured that it has been made from Canadian flour they will, for duty assessing purposes, regard the biscuits as if they were "bread" which has been imported from Canada. In such event the reduced duty will be paid; and one may safely assume that the manufacturers will never buy an ounce of American flour unless the latter, in spite of the new tariff, is cheaper than that which is imported from the Great Dominion.

5. The Barbados merchant will, therefore, have a double inducement under the new tariff for buying Canadian flour, he will have to pay less import duty upon it than heretofore, and he will also remember that one class of consumer—the biscuit manufacturer—has a special reason for avoiding the purchase of the American article. There remains one question, namely, whether the trade of the local manufacturers of "Admirals," "Commodores," and "Middies" is likely to be of sufficiently large dimensions as to influence the importers of flour. It is known that the National Biscuit Company—an American concern—is very powerful, and people may doubt whether it is possible for any Barbadian factory, necessarily small, to compete successfully with such a powerful organization. The doubt can, however, be easily dispelled. The mercantile class in Barbados includes many men of business acumen, and the Barbados Biscuit Factory and the West Indian Biscuit Company (the two concerns making Barbados bread) turn to account the circumstance that one barrel of flour is sufficient to make three barrels of biscuits; thus their American rival is handicapped by heavier shipping freight charges, and this handicap has been turned to good account:—

(*a*) During the year 50,190 barrels of flour were imported, and of this number 25,053 were made into "Barbados bread" (4,546,215 lbs.).

(*b*) During the year only 420,416 lbs. of "bread" were imported from the United States.

(*c*) During the year 838,219 lbs. of "Barbados bread" were exported, chiefly to West Indian Islands, and this export proves that the Barbadian manufacturer is able to fight with his American competitor in places which are beyond the limits of the Colony.

6. The success of the biscuit manufacturers is only one illustration of the business acumen that has been shown in the island; this faculty is of great political value in a colony which possesses such large powers of self-government as exist in Barbados; and there is another direction in which it may, I think, have had a not inconsiderable effect,—it may be a contributory cause of the

inexplicable prosperity which is alluded to at the beginning of this despatch. The satisfactory dividends paid by Barbadian undertakings warrant this belief. The shares of the Barbados Fire Insurance Company and of the Economic Fire Insurance Company stand at 100 per cent. premium, and the operations of each company are based upon the English tariff rate. The shareholders in the Barbados Foundry Company and in the West Indian Rum Refinery, Limited, ought to be very cheerful, contented people, and of the latter company it may be said that they give contentment to non-shareholders in a way—it is a quaint fact—that would gain approval from the most rigid abstainer. A by-product of their manufacture is fusel oil. The quantity is not large enough for profitable export, but every drop is much sought after as a lotion by the use of which sufferers from rheumatism can obtain immediate comfort and ultimate cure. I will only cite two other Barbadian concerns, and I do so because each possesses a special interest. The Barbados Mutual Life Assurance Company has been in existence for many years; the report upon the fourteenth quinquennial valuation discloses security combined with progress, and the Mortality Experience Table (1840-1882) is valuable because it records the experience of a company which has issued policies in the tropics during a long period. The actuary points out that this record is "the Mortality Table in its ordinary form, columns being added for comparison showing the expectation of life for Barbados, and according to the Northampton, Hm., and English Life (No. 3, Males) Tables. As would be inferred from what has preceded, the average duration of life, according to the Society's experience, is at all ages below the two last mentioned tables, but is higher than the Northampton Table at the younger ages, crossing the Northampton experience at age 42."

7. In paragraph 40 of the Report it is stated that the export of oleomargarine manufactured in the Colony amounted to 94,200 lbs. during 1911; and the Blue Book shows that nearly all went to British Guiana or to the British West Indies. It is, perhaps, instructive that the "O.R. Manufacturing Company, Limited,"—a Barbadian concern—should be thus able to compete successfully with American and Dutch competition; but the point which I would like to emphasize is that the company is a purchaser of cotton seed oil, and consequently, to the extent of such purchase, is a source of strength to cotton cultivation in the Colony. The position of this important cultivation is described in paragraphs 22 and 32 of the report; the export of raw cotton is shown to be very variable (1909, 830,117 lbs.; 1910, 589,118 lbs.; 1911, 740,269 lbs.), and information may appear to be needed, not only concerning these variations, but also with respect to the causes which have prevented the cultivation from increasing to the extent which is desired by all. The fault does not lie with the planters. The latter prize very highly a crop which, like cotton, gives the land a rest from sugar cultivation. They believe that intensive cultivation is profitable, and they annually import manure to a value exceeding £100,000, with which to supplement their farmyard manure and thus enrich the 74,000 acres of cultivable land in the Colony. The

real reason why cotton cultivation is not more progressive is because the crop is very susceptible to disease, but there is hope that this difficulty may in time be overcome by careful selection of certain indigenous cottons which, if not absolutely immune, are resistant to insect pests and fungoid diseases, and to this end the Local Department of Agriculture has already cultivated a number of hybrid, native, and other varieties, with results that are distinctly encouraging.

8. I will end this despatch by a brief allusion to some miscellaneous matters.

The expenditure from the Treasury during 1911-12 amounted to £215,697, but to this sum should be added the parochial expenditure (£71,070), of which £4,453 was spent upon the maintenance of churches and chapels, and £19,551 upon poor relief.

For many years the export of fruit has been hampered by want of shipping facilities, but negotiations—full of promise—are in progress between the British West Indian Fruit Company, the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and the planting community, which may result in this difficulty being overcome.

During the year the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation commenced operations and, judging by the success which it has already achieved, it is probable that this undertaking will prove to be successful.

Lastly, a geological survey is needed in order to ascertain whether a petroleum oil industry can be established in the Colony; during the year the sum of £900 was voted for this purpose, and at the present moment the survey is in progress. Will oil be found in Barbados in paying quantities? No person is able, to-day, to answer this question positively; yet it would not be easy to find anybody in Barbados who does not believe that the country will be enriched, during the next few years, by the discovery of oil in great quantity. It is, indeed, quite possible that, in the near future, oil-derricks may be added to the tall chimneys and wind-mills which are now so prominent in Barbadian scenery, and if that day does arrive it will bring great contentment to the economical Barbadian labourer, because the latter will then be able to read—the Bible is the most read book—by lamp-light supplied by cheaper oil.

I have, &c.,

L. PROBYN,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P., P.C.,
&c., &c., &c.

REPORT ON THE BARBADOS BLUE BOOK FOR 1911-12.

FINANCIAL.

GENERAL.

1. In the year 1911-12—

	£
The revenue was	221,906
The expenditure was	215,697
Giving as surplus	£6,209

The balance to the credit of the general revenue increased from £46,633, at the close of the previous financial year, to £52,842.

2. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years:—

Year.	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
1907-8	209,817	188,296
1908-9	189,805	198,865
1909-10	195,803	199,625
1910-11	213,298	211,949
1911-12	221,906	215,697

REVENUE.

3. The revenue for the year under report, which exceeded that for the previous year (itself a record) by £8,608, is the highest ever raised in the Colony, that for 1899 being considered without the Hurricane Grant-in-Aid of £40,000. As no new or additional taxation was imposed during the year, the increase can only be attributed to the increasing prosperity of the Colony.

4. The principal increases, as compared with 1910-11, occurred under the following heads:—

	£
Import duties	4,620
Excise	2,161
Licence	370
Fees and fines	374
Reimbursements in aid	600
Interest and repayment of loans ...	1,013
Special receipts	1,260

5. The main causes of such of the above increases as require explanation are:—

Reimbursements in Aid.—An increase in the contribution by the St. Michael parochial authorities in respect of fire brigade rate, due to increase of the establishment of the fire brigade.

Interest and Repayment of Loans.—The earlier payment of interest on deposits in the Colonial Bank, caused by a rearrangement of the deposit account, which brought interest otherwise payable after April 1st, 1912, into the financial year under consideration.

Special Receipts.—As in the previous financial year the increase is due mainly to an increase of £1,317 in deposits paid under the Quarantine Act by arriving passengers. But, as will be seen under increases of heads of expenditure, the refunds of these deposits have increased by £1,203. The net increase of revenue under this head is therefore £114. The entries show the very great increase in the number of visitors to the island, a contributory cause of prosperity which is steadily growing in importance.

6. The following are the principal heads which show a decrease:—

	£
Tonnage	346
Water Works Department	271
Imperial Grant	1,076

7. The decrease in Imperial Grant is due to the reorganisation of the Local Department of Agriculture on a basis independent of the financial assistance of the Imperial Government, and the consequent cessation of the Imperial Grant-in-Aid.

EXPENDITURE.

8. The expenditure for 1911-12, which exceeded that for the previous year (itself a record) by £3,748, is the highest recorded for the Colony, expenditure due to grants-in-aid being omitted from consideration.

9. The following are the heads under which increases or new expenditure principally occurred:—

	£
Fire Brigade	573
Water Works	965
Pensions	838
Charges of debt	563
Miscellaneous Services—	
Government printing and binding	457
Unclaimed and undistributed moneys	1,167
Refund to passengers under Quarantine Act ...	1,204
Advertising Barbados	200
Sending of volunteer contingent to Coronation	506
Cost of celebrating Coronation	570
Cost of taking census	622
Bay Street and City improvements	1,533
Hospital extension	2,366
Expenses of delegates to Ottawa Reciprocity Conference	200

10. The main causes of increase are as follows:—

(*a*) *Fire Brigade.*—Increase of establishment and purchase of appliances, chiefly met by increase in receipts from Fire Brigade Rate (*vide* paragraph 5).

(*b*) *Waterworks.*—The payment of two instalments of the Launch Renewal Fund during the year and increase of pumping expenses due to drought.

(*c*) *Pensions.*—The payment of a matured insurance policy by the Treasury instead of by the Savings Bank. The amount has since been refunded by the latter institution.

(*d*) *Charges of Debt.*—Payment during the year of two instalments to sinking fund—Public Works Loan Act.

(*e*) *Government Printing and Binding.*—A great increase in the amount of matter printed for the legislature and Government departments.

(*f*) *Unclaimed and Undistributed Moneys.*—Chiefly due to one large refund of money awaiting proof of claim.

(*g*) Refund to passengers under Quarantine Act: explained under "Special Receipts," paragraph 5.

(*h*) *Advertising Barbados.*—A new head of expenditure in which payment of the previous financial year is included.

(*i*) and (*j*) *Bay Street and City Improvements and Hospital Extension*: Advances to be recouped by loans for the purposes named and, therefore, not, strictly speaking, expenditure.

11. Appreciable decrease of expenditure is shown under the following heads:—

	£
Customs	597
Post Office	1,514
Subsidies and Grants	466
Public Works Recurrent	585
Public Works Extraordinary	472

12. The main causes of decrease are:—

Customs.—A reduction in the amount claimed as drawback on exports.

Post Office.—Mainly due to a reduction in expenditure on gratuities on ship letters. The reduction is owing (*a*) to the inflation of the previous year's expenditure by payment for two years during one financial year; (*b*) to the abolition of gratuities to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, which have been replaced by a fixed subsidy; and (*c*) to a reduction of rates on ship letters to British Colonies.

Public Works Recurrent.—Decrease in expenditure in docking dredger and barges.

PUBLIC DEBT.

13. There has been no increase in the public debt during the year under report, the amount remaining at £422,900.

The sinking fund has increased from £85,940 to £90,775, which represents a decrease in liability of £4,835 during the year.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

TRADE.

14. The following table shows the trade of the Colony for 1911, compared with that of the previous year:—

	1911.	1910.
	£	£
Value of Imports	1,539,710	1,345,194
Value of Exports	1,005,931	1,088,830
Excess of imports over exports	533,779	256,364

While the imports increased during 1911 by £194,516, the exports decreased by £82,899. This tends to show that much of the increase in the revenue is due to money brought into, and spent in the island by, visitors.

IMPORTS.

15. The following comparative table for the past two years shows the countries from which imports chiefly came:—

	1911.	1910.
	£	£
United Kingdom ...	599,390	592,641
Canada	188,281	151,985
Newfoundland	23,512	10,494
British West Indies and British Guiana ...	107,658	107,887
India	75,465	9,722
Foreign Countries.		
United States	428,831	399,649
Foreign West Indies ...	12,245	12,288
France	15,799	5,151
Germany	16,009	3,866
Holland	12,952	12,253
Argentine Republic ...	16,173	10,104

16. The following table gives the percentage of imports from the principal countries of origin for the past two years:—

Country	1911. Per cent.	1910. Per cent.
United Kingdom	39	44
Canada	12	11
United States	28	30

17. The imports for 1911 have been classified under "Country of origin and not, as previously, under "County from whence imported." This change accounts for the large increase shown against India. It also lessens the value of the comparison throughout for this year.

18. The following table gives the value of the principal imports from Canada and contrasts the figures with those for the previous year:—

(*a*) Articles showing an increase:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Flour	40,832	31,144	9,688
Oats	13,331	7,266	6,065
Grain	4,687	4,626	61
Bran and pollard	1,841	1,215	626
Oilmeal and oilcake	953	38	915
Fish	23,259	21,311	1,948
Cheese	2,443	1,721	722
Wood	43,778	31,419	12,359
Staves and shooks	5,385	4,086	1,299
Hardware	1,145	184	961
Motor cars	2,247	—	2,247
Sulphate of ammonia ...	22,970	16,844	6,126

(*b*) Articles showing a decrease:—

—	1911.	1910.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Fruit and vegetables	1,267	3,940	2,673
Beef and pork	916	1,962	1,046
Shingles	11,685	12,856	1,171
Iron nails, &c....	1,242	2,435	1,193

EXPORTS.

19. The following table gives a comparison of the value of exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony with that of exports the produce and manufacture of British and foreign countries:—

—	1911.	1910.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Produce, &c. of the Colony ...	722,746	783,125	60,379
Produce, &c. of other Countries	283,185	305,705	22,520

20. The following table gives a comparison of the value of the principal exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony with that of the previous year:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Bananas	1,802	2,652	—	850
Bread	10,478	6,401	4,077	—
Cotton, Raw	43 182	36,820	6,362	—

	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
*Cotton Seed Meal	3,704	Nil.	3,704	—
Hides and Skins	3,550	5,623	—	2,073
†Molasses :—				
Choice	100,268	310,888	36,137	—
Fancy	246,757			
Sugar :—				
Crystals	78,542	45,920	32,622	—
Muscavado	210,717	350,084	—	139,367

* £1,089 worth of "meal, unenumerated, and Cotton Seed Meal from imported seed" was exported in 1910, but appears under the head of "Foreign Produce."

† A new classification of molasses, under the headings "Choice" and "Fancy" has come into force since the previous year.

21. The following table compares the molasses and sugar shipments in the matter of amount as well as of value :—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
Molasses, Choice :—				
Puncheons	25,067			
Value ... ... £	100,268	77,722	7,165	—
Molasses, Fancy :—		£310,888	36,137	—
Puncheons	59,820			
Value ... ... £	246,757			
Sugar, Crystals :—				
Hogsheads	7,135	3,993	3,142	—
Value ... ... £	78,542	45,920	32,622	—
Sugar, Muscavado :—				
Hogsheads	23,413	35,906	—	12,493
Value ... ... £	210,717	350,084	—	139,367

Nett decrease in value of above Exports, £70,608.

It will be seen that the export of dry sugar or crystals has nearly doubled. The cause is to be found in the establishment of a new, up-to-date factory and the extension of the milling plants of other modern factories.

22. The following table gives the similar comparison for cotton :—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.
Cotton, Raw ... ... lbs.	7,401,269	589,118	151,151
Value ... £	43,182	36,820	6,362

This figure, though showing satisfactory increase owing to the prospect of remunerative prices, is still far below the quantity exported in 1909 viz., 830,117 lbs.; but in value greatly exceeds the £40,946 received from that year's export.

23. The places to which the products of the Colony have been chiefly exported, as compared with the previous year, are:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	100,473	117,233	—	16,760
Canada	422,726	484,108	—	61,382
United States	79,888	77,650	2,238	—
Newfoundland	69,023	58,991	10,032	—

24. The destination of the bulk of the sugar has been:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	45,991	67,483	—	21,492
Canada	201,134	268,455	—	67,321
United States	25,938	45,176	—	19,238
Holland	7,110	4,963	2,147	—

And of molasses:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	7,883	10,096	—	2,213
Canada	221,449	215,256	6,193	—
United States	47,757	26,388	21,369	—
Newfoundland	68,289	58,268	10,021	—

25. The transit export trade shows a decrease of £22,520 as compared with 1910. The figures for the past five years are:—

	£
1907	321,515
1908	340,173
1909	311,756
1910	305,705
1911	283,185

The explanation for this decrease may be looked for in the removal of the Intercolonial Headquarters of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company from the island.

SHIPPING.

26. The following table gives the shipping entered at Bridgetown for 1910 and 1911:—

—	1911.		1910.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Steamers	739	1,607,260	745	1,533,188
Sailing vessels	700	138,014	767	165,109
Total	1,439	1,745,274	1,512	1,698,297

This shows a decrease of six steamers and 67 sailing vessels, with a decrease of 27,095 in the tonnage of the latter; but an increase of 74,072 in the tonnage of steamers and a nett increase of 46,977 in the total tonnage entered.

27. The increase of tonnage concurrently with a decrease in tonnage receipts (*vide* paragraph 6) is explained by the fact that tonnage charges are not collected on ships in ballast, ships calling only for bunker coal, and tourist ships. The decrease in tonnage receipts may be partially accounted for by a decrease of 13,516 tons of ships entered with cargo; but the decrease in receipts, and the increase in tonnage are not actually concurrent, for the former figures are for the financial year while the latter are for the calendar year.

28. The nationality of the ships entered during the two years was:—

—	1911.		1910.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
British	1,078	1,314,312	1,147	1,276,865
Foreign	361	430,962	365	421,432

This shows a decrease of 69 British and four foreign ships; but an increase of 37,447 in British, and of 9,530 in foreign tonnage.

29. The following figures show the progress of the coaling business:—

	Steamers coaled.	Tons taken.
1907	306	70,531
1908	229	54,153
1909	219	53,077
1910	272	65,098
1911	275	62,062

AGRICULTURE.

30. The sugar crop has been set out under its various headings in paragraph 21. The following table gives a comprehensive comparison in terms of sugar alone, equating fancy molasses thereto;—

	Hogsheads.
1909	40,375
1910	59,771
1911	54,411

The crop was, therefore, appreciably less than that for the previous year, but still greatly in excess of that for 1909.

31. The rainfall for November and December, 1910, and January, 1911, being below the average, the sugar-cane cuttings, which were planted in the latter half of November and December, did not germinate as regularly as usual. Consequently, at the end of January, 1911, the young sugar-cane crop of the island was, on the whole, irregular, but as the usual dry season, *i.e.*, from the beginning of February to the end of May, was exceptionally wet, the rainfall for the four months being 15·85 inches as compared with 10·44 inches for the sixty-five years ended December 31, 1911, the cuttings that failed to grow, and which were replaced by "top" cuttings taken from vigorous plant canes, germinated so satisfactorily that when the rainy season set in in June the young sugar-cane crop was regular and growing vigorously. From then on to the end of November the rainfall was, with the exception of that for August, which was low, above the average, so that at the end of November there was every prospect of the island making a more than average crop in 1912. Unfortunately, however, a drought set in from the commencement of December which lasted up to the date of this report (31st March, 1912). In consequence of this there is every indication that the crop of the island for 1912 will not be as large as the two preceding ones.

32. The figures in the Blue Book show the cotton exported for the year 1911, the comparison of which with the previous year, is given under "Trade" in paragraph 22.

For the acreage which was reaped during the year, viz., 4,741 acres, as compared with the crop of 4,121 acres of the previous year, the results were:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.
Lbs.	726,573	644,279	82,294
Value ... ... £	42,346	38,549	3,797

The difference between the above figures and those shown by the exports for the year is due to the fact that the reaping and shipping season for any one crop extends from October 1st in one year to September 30th of the following year. In this paragraph I am examining the results of the crop and not the year's export.

The increase by 620 acres is due to the higher price obtained for the lint during the season 1909-10.

33. During 1911 10,594 bunches of bananas were shipped through the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company to the United Kingdom, mainly, if not entirely, from Sandy Lane Plantation. This is a decrease of 2,543 bunches on 1910, which explains the decrease in value of this export in paragraph 20. The shipments

of mangoes that are being made by the Department of Agriculture were continued, and 102 crates containing 10,786 mangoes were shipped to the United Kingdom.

34. For some time the Department of Agriculture has been trying to work up a trade in yams and sweet potatoes with the United Kingdom, but so far with only moderate success, as only forty-six barrels of sweet potatoes and eleven barrels of yams were shipped for the year.

35. During the year an effort was made to ascertain whether it was possible to ship melons to New York during the winter months. At first only a few were shipped, and these were forwarded directly after they were gathered, and arrived in New York in good condition. In consequence of this success an acre of melons were grown. The first few that reached maturity arrived at that condition just as a suitable opportunity offered of forwarding them in the cold storage hold of one of the Lamport and Holt steamers sailing direct to New York. The majority of these reached their destination in good condition, and were sold [at] from 75 cents to $1.00 each. Unfortunately, however, when the melons ripened in numbers there were no steamers with cold storage holds available for their carriage, and they had to be placed in the cold storage room of the Barbados Crystal Ice Factory, to be kept there, in some instances, for over four weeks before they were shipped. The result was that practically all of them rotted on the voyage. Efforts have been made to get other steamers besides the Lamport and Holt to take the melons, but so far without success.

INDUSTRIES.

36. The amount of rum manufactured during the past two years was:—

	1911.	1910.
Gallons	254,654	226,169

showing an increase of 28,485 gallons for 1911.

37. The number of licences to sell liquors increased from 453 in 1910 to 510 in 1911.

38. The process of reduction of the number of estates by sale to small holders has been in operation during the year. But as no estate affected has been completely disposed of, the number remained at the close of the year the same as at the close of 1910, viz., 332. Of these the number which have steam works has increased from 107 to 108.

39. The output of manjak, as shown by the export returns, has decreased from 174 tons in 1910 to 164¼ tons in 1911.

40. The export of oleomargarine manufactured in the Colony has increased from 75,200 lbs. in 1910 to 94,200 lbs. in 1911; but this latter figure is still 100,000 lbs. less than the amount exported in 1909.

41. The export of Barbados bread has risen from 768,134 lbs. in 1910 to 838,219 lbs. in 1911.

42. The two cotton ginneries in the island have dealt with the whole of the cotton crop.

LEGISLATION.

43. Thirty-three Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year. Of these the following are the most important:—

No. 1. An Act authorising the Governor in Executive Committee to purchase certain lands adjoining Bay Street and Fairchild Street, the buildings on which were recently destroyed by fire, for city improvement.

No. 2. An Act to amend the Quarantine Act, 1905, by additional provision respecting the disinfection of clothing and the destruction of rats and other vermin in vessels arriving from an infected place and the embarkation of passengers at an infected place.

No. 3. An Act to further amend the Electric Lighting and Power Order Confirmation (Amendment) Act, 1911. This Act provides for the better protection and insulation of all electric lines placed above ground for lighting and power purposes and for the better protection of telephone and telegraph wires.

No. 14. An Act to make provision for the issue of bank notes. The Act deals with the limitation of issues, penalties for improper issue and the Bank Notes Reserve Fund. Power is given to the Secretary of State, under certain conditions, to waive the provision of the Act with reference to security; and the Colonial Bank is exempted from the scope of the Act.

No. 19. An Act to amend the Vestries Act, 1891. The principal amendment deals with the method of assessment for parochial revenue.

No. 20. The Bridgetown Tramways Company, Limited, (Amendment) Act, authorising the substituting of electricity for animal draught.

No. 25. The Central Sugar Factories Act, which empowers the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank to raise and lend money to owners of groups of plantations for the erection of co-operative factories. The Act also provides for the acquisition of sites, the application of the proceeds of sale of sugar and other matters necessary for the establishment of central co-operative factories.

No. 27. An Act for promoting the revision of the Statute Law, authorising certain amendments to facilitate a revised edition of the laws of the Colony.

No. 29. The Anglican Church (Barbados) Amendment Act, which lays down amended procedure for future appointments to the bishopric of Barbados.

No. 30. The Habitual Criminals Act, which empowers the Supreme Court to add sentence of preventive detention to penal servitude in the case of persons found by the jury to be habitual criminals.

EDUCATION.

44. The total expenditure under this head in 1911-12 was £19,382, an increase of £173 on the previous year.

45. Codrington College, which is affiliated to Durham University, receives no legislative grant, but provision is made on the

annual Estimates for the award of four Island scholarships annually to the students of the college, each of the value of £40 a year, tenable for two years. There were 20 scholars on the roll at the end of 1911, as compared with 13 at the end of 1910.

46. The following table shows the statistics relating to first and second grade schools which receive legislative grants annually:—

Name.	Government Grant.	Pupils' Fees.	No. of Pupils on Rolls.
Boys.	£	£	
Harrison College	1,000	1,755	158
The Lodge School	500	713	55
The Combermere School	300	915	176
The Coleridge School	100	62	19
The Alleyne School	50	7	8
The Parry School	100	81	25
The Christ Church Foundation School	100	124	59
Girls.			
The Queen's College	400	799	91
The Alexandra School	125	149	42

47. There are six exhibitions from primary to first grade schools of £25 tenable for six years; and there are 35 open first grade exhibitions of £10 each and 60 open second grade exhibitions of £5 each tenable for varying periods.

48. The primary schools, numbering 166, were established in connection with the following denominations:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Roll.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.
				£
Church of England	132	22,331	12,992	10,126
Moravian	16	2,443	1,421	1,171
Wesleyan	18	3,276	1,901	1,522
Total (1911)	166	28,050	16,314	12,819
Total (1910)	166	27,658	16,829	11,264

49. At the close of 1911 there were four ragged schools with 321 scholars on the roll and an average attendance of 184, as compared with 285 scholars with average attendance of 173 in 1910. The amount of the legislative grants to these schools was £96 for 1911, as compared with £55 for 1910.

50. Provision is also made for an annual scholarship called the Barbados scholarship, of the value of £175 a year, tenable for four years during membership at one of the universities of Europe or Canada, or at any agricultural or technical college in Europe or America as may be approved by the local Board of Education.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

51. The Barbados General Hospital, situated in Bridgetown, is maintained by Government grant, but is not directly under Government control. It is governed by a Court of Directors of 18, of whom 16 are so either ex-officio or by appointment from the Legislature and the remaining two are life members.

52. In the year 1911 the Government grant was £7,850, the increase of £596 over 1910 being due to the additional grant authorised by the Legislature in 1910. There were 3,759 admissions, 276 deaths, and 27,132 out-patients. The daily average in hospital was 200.

53. At the Lazaretto there were 14 admissions and 12 deaths, leaving 116 inmates at the end of the year. The average daily number was 114·6. There is no legally compulsory segregation of lepers.

54. In the lunatic asylum the daily average number of patients rose from 401 in 1910 to 420 in 1911. The number of admissions was 100, of discharges as cured 25, as relieved 5, and of deaths 54. The revenue from the asylum farm was £805, and the expenditure thereon £442, leaving a profit of £363, an increase of £149 on the profit for the previous year.

55. The daily average number of prisoners in Glendairy Prison was 204 for 1911, as compared with 210 for 1910. The number of persons committed to penal imprisonment was 1,767, a decrease of 18 on the figure for 1910.

56. The number of boys in the Government Industrial School rose from 134 at the close of 1910 to 140 on December 31st, 1911, with a daily average of 137. The boys are employed in agricultural or other manual labour for an average of six hours and in school for two and a half hours a day.

57. The proceeds of the agricultural work of the school amounted to £1,832, the expenditure to £2,496, which makes the cost of the institution to the Colony £664, or £4 16*s*. 11*d*. per boy.

58. The preparations for the establishment of an industrial school for girls were continued and nearly completed during the year.

59. The expenditure on poor relief, dispensed by the Boards of Guardians of the eleven parishes of the island, amounted during 1911 to £19,551, as compared with £20,092 in 1910.

60. The following table shows the progress of the savings bank during the financial year ending March 31st, 1911:—

—	31st March, 1912.	31st March, 1911.	Increase.
Depositors	20,683	20,185	498
	£	£	£
Amount to credit of depositors ...	435,966	425,784	10,182
Amount of invested funds (actual)...	463,090	450,551	12,539

61. As authorised by the legislature in 1910, the rate of interest was raised from 2¾ per cent. to 3 per cent. on 1st January, 1911.

62. The following table shows the progress of friendly societies, established for the relief of members and their families in sickness, and the provision of funds for funeral expenses:—

	December 31, 1911.	December 31, 1910.
Number of societies	280	268
Number of members... ...	47,951	172,426
Number of dependants ...	135,801	

In considering the numbers of members and dependants it must be remembered that persons may belong to more than one society.

63. The steady increases shown under both savings bank and friendly societies are satisfactory evidence of the progress of thrift.

POST OFFICE.

64. The following table gives the comparison of external postal statistics for 1910 and 1911:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
Inwards.				
Mails	1,698	1,734	—	36
Bags	4,073	4,004	69	—
Letters, &c.	984,225	1,102,021	—	117,796
Parcels...	16,404	15,028	1,376	—
Outwards.				
Mails	1,722	1,800	—	78
Bags	2,752	2,826	—	74
Letters, &c.	918,330	983,976	—	65,646
Parcels...	5,128	4,889	239	—

65. The decreases for 1911 must be considered along with the extraordinary increases during the record year of 1910. Except for the one item, inward letters, none of the figures have fallen as far as the level of 1909.

66. The number of internal letters, &c., and parcels dealt with in 1911 was estimated to be 781,884, as compared with an estimated 841,984 in 1910.

67. The number of mails received in transit fell from 3,208 in 1910 to 1,804 in 1911, the decrease being due to the removal in January, 1911, of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's intercolonial headquarters from Barbados to Trinidad.

68. Remittances through the Post Office are shown by the following table:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
Issued.	£	£	£	£
Money Orders	14,333	16,738	—	2,405
British Postal Orders	5,606	5,128	478	—
Paid.				
Money Orders	83,090	93,362	—	10,272
British Postal Orders	5,351	5,597	—	246

69. The principal places of destination and origin of money orders have varied from the previous year as under:—

Destination of Money Orders issued.	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Great Britain	5,950	7,242	—	1,292
United States of America	3,797	4,307	—	510
Place of origin of Money Order paid.				
Panama, Canal Zone	51,010	62,281	—	11,271
United States of America	15,808	15,078	730	—

70. As a set off against the decrease in money orders paid, there has been a great increase in registered packages received from abroad, as is shown by the following table:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.
Registered Letters received, excluding those in transit.	32,935	30,029	2,906

The bulk of the increase is due to an increase of 2,692 registered letters from the United States. It is known that American notes to a considerable sum come to the island in these letters.

71. The comparison of revenue and expenditure for the two years is:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Revenue	8,364	8,343	21	—
Expenditure	7,803	9,031	—	1,228

giving a net revenue of £561 for 1911, as compared with a deficit of £688 for 1910.

The reduction of expenditure has been explained in paragraph 12 above.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

72. The comparison with the previous year is:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
Summary convictions	11,142	9,888	1,254	—
Conviction in Superior Courts...	38	40	—	2

73. The percentage of convictions to an estimated population of 172,000 is 6·49. No comparison is possible with percentages for previous years as these were based on estimates of population shown by the census taken in 1911 to have been erroneous.

74. The number of convictions for prædial larceny, 526, is the lowest on record.

75. The number of cane fires increased from 95 in 1910 to 108 in 1911, a figure still below that of 1909, viz., 126.

VITAL STATISTICS.

76. The population of the Colony on December 31st, 1911, was estimated to be: males 71,544, females 101,878, total 173,422. This shows an increase of 2,005 over the estimate for December 31st, 1910.

77. The census of the Colony was taken on April 2nd, 1911, and the figures obtained are those shown in the Blue Book. The table given above takes into account the correction for births, burials, emigration, and immigration, and shows an estimated increase of 1,529 for the last nine months of the year.

78. The comparison of births and deaths with those of the previous year is:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.	Decrease.
Births	6,106	6,381	—	275
Birth rate per 1,000	35·2	37·2	—	2·0
Burials	4,561	4,383	178	—
Death rate per 1,000...	26·3	25·5	0·8	—
Marriages	812	880	—	68
Marriage rate per 1,000	9·3	10·3	—	1·0

79. Illegitimate births numbered 3,546, or 58 per cent. of the total births.

80. The burials of children under a year old numbered 1,605, giving a rate of 263 per 1,000 births. The relation of infantile mortality to illegitimacy cannot be ascertained from the returns at present authorised by law; but steps for the reduction of the rate of infantile mortality are engaging the serious attention of the Government and the parochial authorities.

METEOROLOGY.

81. The barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station on the average for 1911, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea level, was at 9 a.m. 29·900 inches, and at 3 p.m. 29·839 inches. The highest recorded during the year was 30·010 inches on July 5th, and the lowest 29·734 inches on December 9th. For the ten years 1902-11 inclusive, the average barometric pressure under the same conditions was at 9 a.m. 29·954 inches, and at 3 p.m. 29·890 inches. The highest average pressure for that period at 9 a.m. was 30·013 inches, and the lowest at 3 p.m. 29·820 inches.

82. The average maximum temperature for the year 1911 was 83·8° F., and the average minimum 75·3° F. The highest temperature for the year was 89·1° F., registered on August 10th, and the lowest temperature was 61·0° F., on February 20th. The mean average temperature for the year was 79·5° F., the average range 19·4° F., the maximum range 22·9° F., and the minimum range 15·5° F. For the ten years 1902-11 the average maximum temperature was 84·2° F., and the average minimum 75·6° F. The maximum extreme during the ten years was 87·1° F., and the minimum extreme 68·2° F. The mean average temperature for the ten years was 79·9° F., and the average range 19·0° F.

83. The average velocity of the wind during 1911 was 11·1 miles per hour, the maximum being 22·9 miles per hour on June 19th, and the minimum 2·1 miles per hour on January 12th. The average velocity for the ten years ended 1911 was 11·0 miles per hour.

84. The rainfall registered at the Government Meteorological Station amounted to 49·71 inches. This fell on 164 days, the greatest fall being 3·18 inches on February 6th, and the lowest ·01 on June 15th, July 5th, August 4th, October 16th, and December 3rd and 27th.

The average rainfall for the island for the year from 154 stations was 59·28 inches, as compared with 60·34 inches, from 163 stations, for the previous year, and with 61·82 inches, from an average of 118 stations, for the 65 years ended 1911.

85. A series of exhibits of the chief products of the island, with explanatory leaflets, was forwarded by the Permanent Exhibition Committee to the Toronto Fair of August, 1911. In a booklet entitled "The West Indies in Canada," issued by the Imperial Department of Agriculture for the West Indies and sent to the Fair for free distribution, was incorporated an article giving information, historical, agricultural, and general, as to the island. The Colony is indebted to Mr. C. S. Pickford, of the firm of Messrs. Pickford & Black, for his services in arranging the Barbados exhibits and in affording information to enquirers.

GENERAL REMARKS.

86. Labourers under contract left for the Panama Canal to the number of 1,006 during 1911. There are no statistics to show the number of those who went independently. Barbadians

who returned from Panama numbered 1,559, as compared with 2,048 in 1910.

87. The following table shows the money brought to the island from the Canal Zone:—

—	1911.	1910.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
By Money Orders	51,010	62,281	11,271
Declared by returning Barbadians ...	14,032	20,604	6,572

88. The island was free from any outbreak of quarantinable disease during the year.

89. The Central Sugar Factories Act has not resulted so far in the establishment of any co-operative factory, owing to the fact that no group of estate owners has come forward to take advantage of its provisions.

90. As stated in paragraph 3, the revenue for the financial year 1911-12 shows an increase of £8,608 over that for the previous year, although that was itself a record. This is a striking fact in view of the figures in paragraph 21, which show that the export of sugar products, the staple industry of the island, fell in value by £70,068. This fall, however, is far from balancing the increase by £208,800 in the export of sugar products in 1910.

91. The great and rapidly growing excess of imports over exports proves that satisfactory returns from the staple industry and the minor industries of the Colony do not account in full for the steadily growing prosperity of the island. For the complete explanation of this, and of the excess of imports over exports, we must take into account the money brought into the island from abroad.

92. This falls under the following heads:—

(*a*) As seen by paragraph 86, each labourer who returned from Panama brought with him some £9. Under this head must also be considered the £51,010 remitted thence.

Although this is an obvious immediate financial gain to the Colony, thoughtful men are doubtful whether the process will be of future or lasting benefit, for the returned Panama labourer is not to be depended on for labour in Barbados. The higher wage of the Canal Zone makes him dissatisfied with such wage as the sugar industry can afford; and his Panama savings tend to encourage him to a life of idleness while they last, and unfit him afterwards for the work that would otherwise be expected of him and which the island needs from him.

(*b*) Paragraphs 69 and 70 show that £15,808 was remitted in money orders from the United States in addition to a considerable amount in notes by registered letter. Some of this must be credited to business transactions, but a large proportion is undoubtedly due to remittances from Barbadian emigrants. The Honourable Auditor-General has estimated that an average of £16,000 a year is received in the Colony from emigrants to other West Indian Islands, Canada, and the United States. In view of the above figure for the United States alone, his estimate cannot be considered excessive.

(*c*) Payments to the amount of some £12,000 a year are made in Barbados on account of the Imperial Treasury and Colonial Governments.

(*d*) The Honourable Auditor-General estimates that the shipping spends an average of £30 per vessel on ship-chandlery and provisions. This gives £43,170 as brought into the island by the 1,439 vessels entered for 1911.

(*e*) Money brought into the island by visitors.

93. This last head is undoubtedly by far the most profitable of all the above causes for excess of imports and for the rising revenue, due largely, as is shown by the increase of £4,620 in import duties, to increasing imports. The Honourable E. T. Grannum, C.M.G., Auditor-General, who, at the request of His Excellency the Governor, has examined in detail the revenue of the Colony for the fifteen years 1896-1910, suggests that for the five years 1906-10, out of an average excess of imports over exports of £318,356, the otherwise unexplained average of £170,000 may be credited to visitors. As the excess of imports for 1911 exceeded the above average by £215,423 it would seem a legitimate inference, as there has been no very appreciable increase in the other causes assigned, that the amount of money brought by visitors has proportionately increased for the year under report. This, however, is impossible of definite assertion in view of the fact that the first and second class passengers to the island have decreased by 964.

94. The visitors may be divided into three categories:—

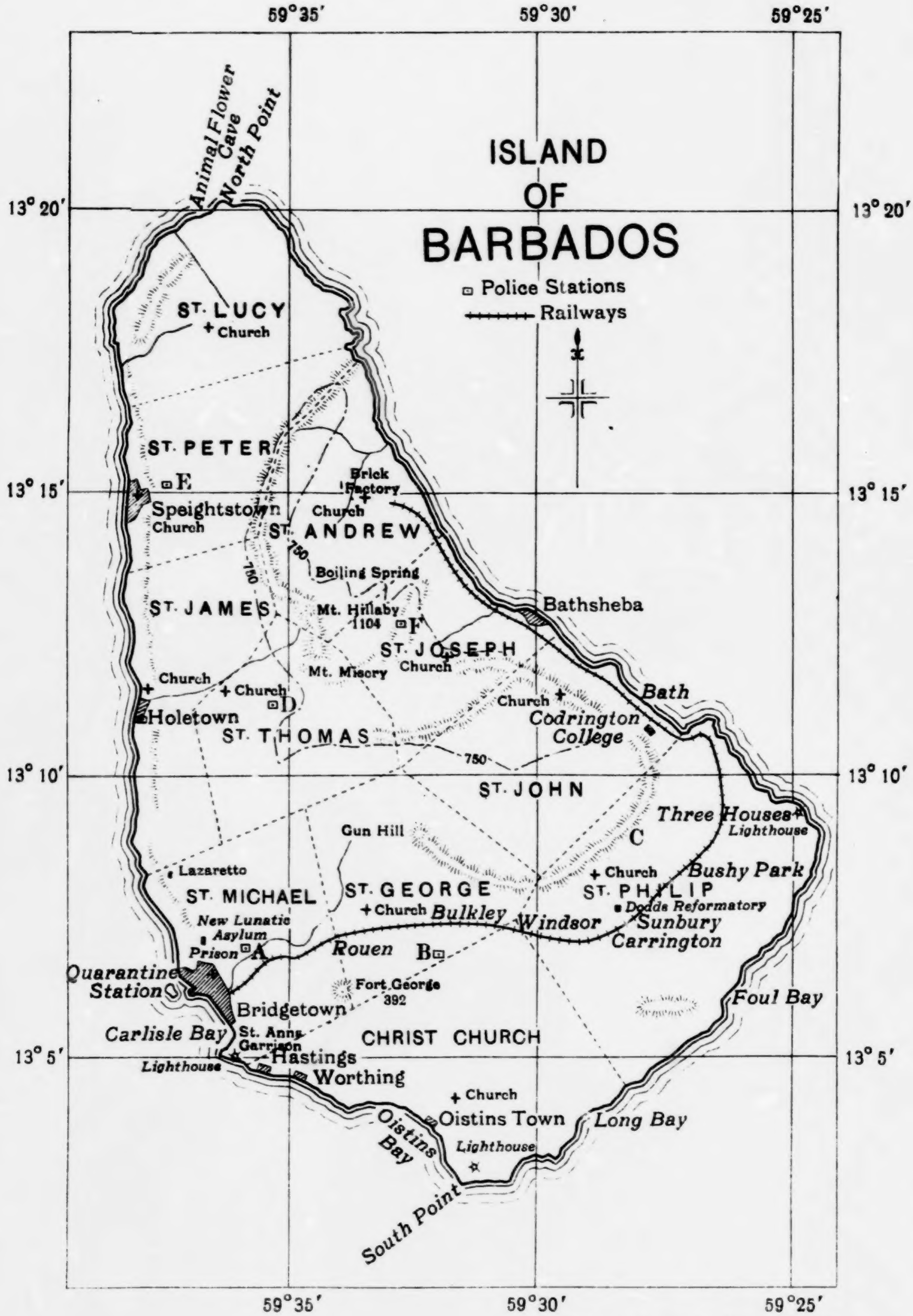
(*a*) Those brought by tourist ships, who stay only for a day but spend money freely ashore.

(*b*) Tourists from Europe and North America, who stay at the principal hotels or rent houses during the winter months.

(*c*) Visitors from South America, particularly Brazil, who rent houses near the sea during their stay, which, owing to the island's well deserved reputation as a health resort, is generally of considerable duration. For the special accommodation of this class Brazilian hotels are now being established.

95. The increase in the first of the above categories is shown by the following table:—

—	1911.	1910.	Increase.
Number of tourist ships	7	2	5
Number of tourists	2,164	644	1,520


ISLAND OF BARBADOS
□ Police Stations
Railways
59°35′
59°30′
59°25′
13°20′
13°15′
13°10′
13°5′
Animal Flower Cave
North Point
ST. LUCY
Church
ST. PETER
E
Speightstown
Church
Brick Factory
Church
ST. ANDREW
750
Boiling Spring
ST. JAMES
Mt. Hillaby 1104
F
Bathsheba
ST. JOSEPH
Church
Mt. Misery
Church
Church
D
Holetown
Church
Bath
Codrington College
ST. THOMAS
750
ST. JOHN
Three Houses
Lighthouse
Gun Hill
C
Church
Bushy Park
Lazaretto
ST. MICHAEL
ST. GEORGE
ST. PHILIP
Church
Dodds Reformatory
New Lunatic Asylum
Bulkley
Windsor
Sunbury
Prison
A
Rouen
B
Carrington
Quarantine Station
Fort George 392
Bridgetown
Foul Bay
Carlisle Bay
St. Anns Garrison
CHRIST CHURCH
Hastings
Lighthouse
Worthing
Church
Oistins Town
Long Bay
Oistins Bay
Lighthouse
South Point

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1913.

When the purchase of provisions and stores for the ship is added to the money spent by the passengers the value of this source of wealth will be easily realised.

96. There are no statistics available to differentiate between the other two classes of visitors, but the following table shows the number of passengers arriving in the island, exclusive of those in transit:—

——	1911.	1910.	Increase	Decrease.
First and Second Class... ...	4,527	5,491	—	964
Steerage and Deck	12,998	12,441	557	—

97. An association of the leading gentlemen, official and non-official, was started towards the end of 1911 under the name of "The Barbados Improvement Association," one of the objects of which is to increase the attractiveness of the island to visitors.

98. And the Government, by advertisement through the kind offices of the West India Committee, by the publication of a Barbados handbook, and by careful consideration of steps for the attraction of visitors, is endeavouring to increase this addition to the wealth of the community and enlarge this valuable source of revenue.

J. A. Burdon,

Colonial Secretary

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados,
7th December, 1912.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
720	Falkland Islands	1911
721	Seychelles	"
722	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast...	"
723	Hong Kong...	"
724	Sierra Leone	"
725	Gold Coast	"
726	Turks and Caicos Islands...	"
727	Fiji	"
728	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1911–1912
729	Basutoland	"
730	Colonial Survey Committee	"
731	Malta	"
732	Nyasaland	"
733	British Honduras	1911
734	Gilbert and Ellice Islands...	1910
735	Southern Nigeria	1911
736	Somaliland	1911–1912
737	Imperial Institute	1911
738	Northern Nigeria	"
739	Jamaica	1911–1912
740	Swaziland	"
741	Bahamas	"
742	Grenada	1911
743	Uganda	1911–1912
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	1911–1912
746	British Guiana	"
747	St. Vincent	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
72	Fiji	Hurricane, 1910.
73	Jamaica	Cayman Islands.
74	Ceylon	Mineral Survey, 1906–7, and 1907–8.
75	West Indies	Imperial Department of Agriculture.
76	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 779.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1912-13.

(For Report for 1911-12, *see* No. 748.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1913.

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No. 779.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1911–12, *see* No. 748.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Barbados,
11th November, 1913.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith six copies of the Barbados Blue Book for the year 1912-13, together with the report thereon, which has been prepared by Mr. W. L. C. Phillips, the Acting Colonial Secretary.

I have, &c.,
L. PROBYN,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, M.P.,
&c., &c., &c.

(32812—2.) Wt. 35104—688. 1125 & 90. 12/13. D & S.

REPORT ON THE BARBADOS BLUE BOOK FOR 1912-13.

FINANCIAL.

General.

1. In the year 1912-13—

	£
Revenue amounted to	234,126
Expenditure was	230,340
Leaving a credit balance of ...	£3,786

The balance to the credit of the general revenue, which had been £52,842 at the close of the financial year 1911-12, was thus increased to £56,628.

2. The revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1908-9	189,805	198,865
1909-10	195,803	199,625
1910-11	213,298	211,949
1911-12	221,906	215,697
1912-13	234,126	230,340

Revenue.

3. In connection with the above figures, however, it should be stated that there is included in the year's revenue a sum of £12,502 which is properly a refund of amounts advanced from the Treasury from time to time towards (1) the extension of the General Hospital, and (2) the improvement of Bay Street and City of Bridgetown after the fire of 20th June, 1910; while on the expenditure side of the account there is included a sum of £9,000 expended in payment for certain War Department lands and buildings purchased by the local Government, which sum is intended to be refunded to the Treasury from the proceeds of a loan to be raised under the Public Works Loan Act for the purpose mentioned.

4. If the refund, £12,502, mentioned in the last paragraph be excluded from consideration, the revenue proper for 1912 is £221,624. This is less than the revenue for 1911 by £282, but, in this connection, it should be mentioned that the revenue for 1911 was the largest recorded in the history of the Colony, exceeding by £8,608 the previous best. And if the sum of £9,000, also mentioned in the last paragraph, be deducted from the expenditure, the latter would be reduced to £221,340, or £284 less than revenue.

5. No new or additional taxation was imposed in 1912.

6. As compared with 1911 the principal increases in revenue occurred under the following heads:—

	£
Post Office	2,213
Reimbursements in Aid	13,489
Water Works	937

7. The principal causes of the above increases are:—

Post Office.—Increased sales of stamps due to the issue of the new King George V. design and to an increase of letters, &c., posted.

Reimbursements in Aid.—As previously mentioned in paragraph 3, the increase is due to the reimbursement of sums amounting to £12,502 to the Treasury in repayment of advances made for the extension of the General Hospital and for the Bay Street and City Improvement Scheme.

Water Works.—Increased sales.

8. Decreases requiring explanation occurred under the following heads:—

	£
Customs	3,130
Excise	715
Interest	502

9. Of the above decreases the principal is *Customs*, and was caused by a reduction in the import of dutiable goods in expectation of a short crop in 1913. The decrease in *Excise* is accounted for by a smaller consumption of spirits, and the decrease in *Interest* by changes in the dates of receipt, and also because it was not found possible to keep at interest as large deposits in 1912 as in 1911.

EXPENDITURE.

10. The expenditure for 1912 is the highest on record, if expenditure due to grants-in-aid is excluded from consideration. It exceeds the expenditure of 1911 by £14,643, and the expenditure of 1911, it is to be noted, was, until 1912, the highest on record.

11. The following are the heads under which the principal increases in expenditure occurred:—

	£
Customs	1,667
Post Office	414
Education	4,051
Government Industrial Schools	779
Miscellaneous Services	9,843
Public Works (Extraordinary)	765

12. The main causes of the above increases are:—

Customs.—An increase in the amount of duty refunded as drawbacks on the exportation of goods.

Post Office.—Cost of issue of stamps of new King George V. design.

Education.—Increased pay to teachers in elementary schools, and cost of repairs and alterations to elementary schools.

Government Industrial Schools.—Salaries and upkeep of the new girls' reformatory.

Miscellaneous Services.—Cost of purchase of military properties and savannah from the War Department. This expenditure is non-recurrent, and will later be refunded to the Treasury, as mentioned in paragraph 3.

Public Works (Extraordinary).—Cost of construction of gasoline warehouse and reconstruction of wharf walls.

13. Decreases of expenditure requiring explanation occurred under the following heads:—

	£
Fire Brigade	271
Police	319
Water Works	1,432
Pensions	593
Charges of Debt	953
Public Works (Recurrent)	600

14. The main causes of the above decreases are:—

Fire Brigade.—In 1911 an increase in the expenditure was caused by increases in material and apparatus which did not recur in 1912.

Police.—Decreased personal emoluments, caused by the resignation of the Inspector-General.

Water Works.—Decreased pumping expenses and decreased personal emoluments.

Pensions.—Deaths and reduced payments for premiums on assurances under the Pension Act due to the maturing of policies.

Charges of Debt.—The Sinking Fund investment of £1,000 for 1910, under the Public Works Loan Act, was remitted in 1911, as well as the instalment for 1911. This double payment, therefore, accounts for the decrease.

Public Works (Recurrent).—Failure to remit until 1913 contribution to the Public Buildings Insurance Fund.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

15. Taking into account amounts uncollected at 31st March, 1913, and accounts due and unpaid at the same date—estimated to be £7,500—the excess of assets over liabilities at 31st March, 1913, amounted to £50,942.

PUBLIC DEBT.

16. The public debt was increased by £14,000 in 1912, and now amounts to £436,900. The increase is explained by the raising of two loans under the authority of the Public Works Loan Act—one of £8,000 at 4 per cent. per annum for the enlargement of the General Hospital, and the other of £6,000, also at 4 per cent., for the Bay Street and City Improvement Scheme.

17. The total public debt of £436,900. Of this amount £375,000 was raised in 1895 by the issue of inscribed stock at 3½ per cent. for the purchase of the works and undertakings, respectively, of the Bridgetown Water Works Company and the Barbados Water Supply Company, and for furnishing and com-

pleting the supply of water to the rural district of the island. A Sinking Fund of 1 per cent. per annum of the issue provides for the ultimate extinguishment of the debt. The balance of the public debt, £61,900, represents balances remaining unpaid of the loans raised locally from time to time, under the authority of the Public Works Loan Act, in order to pay for various public works and undertakings. The Sinking Fund to extinguish these loans is formed by investing a sum not exceeding £1,000 per annum out of the surplus revenues of the year.

18. The Sinking Funds thus formed amount to (*a*) £90,342 in the case of the Water Works Loan, and (*b*) £9,560 in the case of the loans raised under the Public Works Loan Act. Together they aggregate £99,902, as compared with £90,775 in 1911.

PAROCHIAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

19. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the several parishes of the island in 1912 compared with 1911:—

Year.	Amount.	Increase.	Decrease.
Revenue.	£		£
1912	61,011	—	6,510
1911	67,521	—	—
Expenditure.			
1912	60,377	—	3,686
1911	64,063	—	—

20. Although there was a total decrease in parochial expenditure in 1912 amounting to £3,686, there was a large increase in the amount expended on poor relief. The expenditure on this item in 1911 was £19,551, while in 1912 it rose to £21,846, an increase of £2,295. The increase was entirely due to the larger expenditure rendered necessary in 1912 for the relief of the suffering caused by the severe and protracted drought.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

TRADE.

21. The trade of the Colony for 1912, compared with that of the previous year, is shown in the following table:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Value of Imports ...	1,465,431	1,539,710	—	74,279
Value of Exports ...	1,085,569	1,005,931	79,638	—
Excess of Imports ...	379,862	533,779	—	—

Compared with 1911, imports show a decrease of £74,279 and exports an increase of £79,638. The decrease in imports may be attributed to the fact that in expectation of short crops of sugar and cotton, following the severe drought experienced in 1912, orders for goods from abroad were reduced in the latter months of the year. The improved prices received in 1912 for sugar products will account in a large measure for the increase in the value of exports.

IMPORTS.

22. The following table shows the countries from which imports chiefly came in 1912 and 1911:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	559,629	599,390	—	39,761
Canada	183,800	188,281	—	4,481
Newfoundland	24,299	23,512	787	—
British West Indies and British Guiana.	87,970	107,568	—	19,598
India	74,965	75,465	—	500
Foreign Countries.				
United States	426,652	428,831	—	2,179
Foreign West Indies	12,608	12,245	363	—
Chili	6,500	6,930	—	430
France	7,074	15,799	—	8,725
Denmark...	5,024	4,614	410	—
Germany...	17,044	16,009	1,035	—
Holland	12,297	12,952	—	655
Argentine Republic	30,701	16,173	14,528	—

23. The percentage of imports from the principal countries of origin for the past two years is as follows:—

	1912.	1911.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	38	39
Canada	12	12
United States of America	29	28

24. The value of the principal imports from Canada in 1912 and 1911 is shown in the following table, namely:—

(*a*) Articles showing an increase:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Hay	2,070	835	1,235
Bran and pollard	1,941	1,841	100
Sulphate of ammonia ...	41,026	22,970	18,056
Iron nails, &c.	1,384	1,242	142

(*b*) Articles showing a decrease:—

—	1912.	1911.	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Flour	39,414	40,832	1,418
Oats	12,670	13,331	661
Oilmeal and oilcake	590	953	363
Fish	20,970	23,259	2,289
Butter	542	895	353
Cheese	2,244	2,443	199
Wood	32,339	43,778	11,439
Staves and shooks	3,334	5,385	2,051
Hardware	38	1,145	1,107
Motor cars	1,373	2,247	874
Fruit and vegetables	1,197	1,267	70
Beef and pork	726	916	190
Shingles	10,891	11,685	794

EXPORTS.

25. The following table gives a comparison of the value of exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony with the value of exports the produce and manufacture of British and foreign countries:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.
	£	£	£
Produce, &c. of the Colony	765,528	722,746	42,782
„ „ other countries ...	320,041	283,185	36,856

26. A comparison of the value of the principal exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony in 1912 with those of 1911 is given in the next table:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Bananas	833	1,802	—	969
Bread	13,048	10,478	2,570	—
Cotton, raw	26,191	43,182	—	16,991
Cotton seed meal	4,769	3.704	1,065	—
Hides and skins...	4,605	3,550	1,055	—
Molasses:—				
Choice	81,739	100,268	—	18,529
Fancy	301,876	246,757	55,119	—
Sugar:—				
Crystals	152,763	78,542	74,221	—
Muscovado	159,910	210,717	—	50,807

27. The following table compares the sugar and molasses shipments in the matter of quantity as well as of value:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
Molasses, choice :—				
Puncheons	21,510	25,067	—	3,557
Value ... ... £	81,739	100,268	—	18,529
Molasses, fancy :—				
Puncheons	63,553	59.820	3,733	—
Value ... ... £	301,876	246,756	55,120	—
Sugar, crystals :—				
Hogsheads	12,741	7,135	5,606	—
Value ... ... £	152,763	78,542	74,221	—
Sugar, Muscovado :—				
Hogsheads	15,991	23,413	—	7,422
Value ... ... £	159,910	210,717	—	50,807

showing a net increase in value of above exports of £60,005. The increase in the export of crystal sugars is again to be noted, and is due to the erection and extension of modern factories with improved milling powers.

28. The quantities and values of the cotton exports in 1912 and 1911 are shown in the following comparative table, namely:—

—	1912.	1911.	Decrease.
Cotton, raw ... ... lbs.	415,887	740,269	324,382
Value ... ... £	26,191	43,182	16,991

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton seed and meal ... lbs.	763,184	592,570	170,614	—
Value ... ... £	4,769	3,704	1,065	—

29. While there is a slight increase in the value of the cotton seed meal exported, there is a very large decrease in the quantity and value of the raw cotton exported, the net decrease in the value of the product being £15,926. The decrease in quantity is due in part to the comparative failure of the cotton crop in 1912 owing to the severe drought, which caused a reduction in the yield, and also to the diminished vitality and impaired disease-resisting qualities of the cotton plant.

30. The places to which the products of the Colony have been principally exported as compared with 1911 are given in the next table:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	57,455	100,473	—	43,018
Canada	525,506	422,726	102,780	—
United States	66,956	79,888	—	12,932
Newfoundland	53,887	69,023	—	15,136

31. The destination of the bulk of the sugar has been:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	18,830	45,991	—	27,161
Canada	261,941	201,134	60,807	—
United States	2,280	25,938	—	23,658
Holland	6,932	7,110	—	178

And of the molasses:—

	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	7,014	7,883	—	869
Canada	263,469	221,449	43,020	—
Newfoundland	52,766	68,289	—	15,523
United States	58,504	47,757	10,747	—

32. As compared with 1911, the export trade of goods in transit shows the gratifying increase of £36,856. The figures for the past five years are:—

	£
1908	340,173
1909	311,756
1910	305,705
1911	283,185
1912	320,041

33. In view of the fact that this has been a steadily diminishing trade for some years it will be interesting to observe whether the improvement shown in 1912 will be maintained. The ground lost since the transfer of the headquarters of the Inter-Colonial Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's service to Trinidad would seem to be in a fair way of being regained—a consummation devoutly to be hoped for.

SHIPPING.

34. The shipping entered at the port of Bridgetown for the years 1912 and 1911 is shown in the following table, namely:—

—	1912.		1911.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
Steamers	740	1,679,208	739	1,607,260
Sailing Vessels	671	149,272	700	138,014
Total	1,411	1,828,480	1,439	1,745,274

This shows an increase of one steamship and a decrease of 29 sailing vessels, with a net increase of 83,206 tons in tonnage.

35. The nationality of the ships entered was:—

—	1912.		1911.	
	Number.	Tonnage.	Nnmber.	Tonnage.
British	1,062	1,358,816	1,078	1,314,312
Foreign	349	469,664	361	430,962

showing a decrease of 16 British and 12 foreign ships, a total altogether of 28, but an increase of 44,504 tons in British and 38,702 tons in foreign tonnage, altogether an increase in tonnage of 83,206 tons, as shown in the preceding table.

36. The business done in bunker coals for steamships is shown by the following figures:—

Year.	Ships coaled.	Tons taken.
1908	229	54,153
1909	219	53,077
1910	272	65,098
1911	275	62,062
1912	302	76,012

37. The number of ships coaled and quantity of coal taken in 1912 are both in excess of any previous record, and the increase in this business is an agreeable and encouraging feature to be noted in connection with the Colony's trade.

AGRICULTURE.

38. The sugar crop has been set out under its various headings in paragraph 27. The following table gives a comprehensive comparison, in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto), of the crops for the past four years:—

	Hogsheads.
1909	40,375
1910	59,771
1911	54,411
1912	51,220

As will be seen, the crop for 1912 was appreciably less than that for the two previous years, but still greatly in excess of that of 1909.

39. The rainfall for the first half of November, 1911, being good, the sugar-cane cuttings planted towards the close of that month germinated satisfactorily; but, as that for December was below the average, those which were planted in that month did not grow so well. In consequence of unfavourable weather conditions the young sugar-canes were not, on the whole, as well or as regularly established as usual. The following table states the average monthly rainfall for 1912 in comparison with the average for the 65 years ended 1911, and these statistics show

that a drought commenced in December, 1911, and lasted practically until October, 1912, thereby causing the average rainfall for the island (viz., 41·49 inches) not only to be the lowest on record for the 65 years, but also to be lower than the average for that period by no less a quantity than 20 inches:—

Months.	Average rainfall for 1912.	Average rainfall for the 65 years ended 1911.
	Inches.	Inches.
January	3·00	3·55
February	1·47	2·26
March	1·51	2·04
April	1·34	2·51
May	·83	3·63
June	3·29	5·79
July	3·60	6·21
August	3·79	7·65
September	2·21	7·87
October	8·58	7·89
November	7·15	7·47
December	4·72	7·99
	41·49 ins.	61·86 ins.

40. From the prolonged drought it was expected that the crop would be far below the average. Owing, however, to the more favourable weather conditions in October, November, and December, 1912, the canes rapidly improved, and eventually a fair crop of sugar was reaped.

41. An interesting fact was ascertained as a result of the drought, namely, the value of the drought-resisting quality of the native seedling cane B. 6450, a variety propagated by the local Department of Agriculture. In districts particularly affected by the drought this variety gave excellent results as compared with all other varieties, and the knowledge thus obtained will prove undoubtedly useful in future in those districts.

42. The figures in the Blue Book show the cotton exported for the year 1912, the comparison of which with the previous year is given under "Trade" in paragraph 28.

43. From the acreage which was reaped during the year, viz., 4,669 acres, compared with 4,741 acres the previous year, the results were:—

—	1912.	1911.	Decrease.
Lbs.	455,689	726,573	270,884
Value ... ... £	28,112	42,346	14,234

44. The difference between the above figures and those shown by the exports for the year is in part due to the fact that the reaping and shipping season of this crop extends from October

1st in one year to September 30th of the following year. In this paragraph the results of the crop and not the year's exports are dealt with.

45. The reason why cotton cultivation is not progressive in Barbados is that the crop is in a very high degree susceptible to disease. Planters become discouraged when they see a promising field of cotton attacked and destroyed by diseases with which at present they cannot successfully cope, and as a result they reduce the land under cotton cultivation. Experiments are being carried on by the local Department of Agriculture in hybridising certain carefully selected indigenous cotton plants with Sea Island and other varieties, in the hope of producing a plant which will be more resistant to insect pests and fungoid diseases. The results to date are such as to encourage the experiments being continued on a more extensive scale this year, with a hope of an ultimate successful result.

46. In 1912, 5,844 bunches of bananas were shipped to the United Kingdom. This is a decrease of 4,750 bunches compared with 1911, and goes to explain the decrease in value of this export in paragraph 26. The shipments of mangoes that are being made by the Department of Agriculture were continued, and 144 crates, containing 18,295 mangoes, were shipped to the United Kingdom.

47. The Department of Agriculture has for some time been trying to work up a trade in yams and sweet potatoes with the United Kingdom, and for the year under review 30 barrels of sweet potatoes and six barrels of yams were shipped.

48. During the year the experiment of shipping melons to New York during the winter months was continued, and those that reached their destination in good condition realised excellent prices. The success attending the experiment justifies its being continued on a larger scale this year.

INDUSTRIES.

49. There was an increase of 24,283 gallons in the quantity of rum manufactured locally, the figures for the last three years being:—

Year.	Quantity. Gallons.	Increase. Gallons.
1910	226,169	—
1911	254,654	28,485
1912	278,937	24,283

50. The number of licences to sell liquor increased from 510 in 1911 to 533 in 1912, and the amount received from £2,550 to £2,765.

51. The number of sugar plantations has been reduced from 330 in 1911 to 320 in 1912, of which 103 are equipped with steam works. The reduction has been caused to a slight extent by the amalgamation of small adjoining properties into one, but in a greater measure by the cutting up and selling of plantations in small lots to peasant proprietors.

52. There has been a slight decrease in the quantity of manjak exported, but this was compensated for by an increase in the

value of the export. The quantity shipped in 1912 amounted to 158 tons, of the value of £1,741, as compared with 164 tons, of the value of £1,568, in 1911. Two mines, employing 40 men, are in operation.

53. A slight increase in the export of oleomargarine manufactured locally is to be noted, the quantity exported in 1912 being 102,150 lbs., as compared with 94,200 lbs. in 1911, an increase of 7,950 lbs. in quantity, and £160 in value.

54. The increased output of crackers manufactured locally, which was noticed in 1911, continued in 1912, and the figures for the two years are shown in the following table:—

Year.	Quantity.	Value.	Increase.	
			Quantity.	Value.
	Lbs.	£	Lbs.	£
1911...	839,219	10,478	—	—
1912...	1,043,895	13,048	205,676	2,570

55. There are two cotton ginneries in the Colony, and they deal with the entire output of the cotton crop.

56. A slight increase is noticeable in the receipts of the Barbados Light Railway Company, which rose from £9,628 in 1911 to £9,904 in 1912.

LEGISLATION.

57. Thirty-one Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year. Of these the more important were:—

No. 2. An Act to prohibit the admixture of vacuum pan molasses with fancy or muscovado molasses. The Act is an attempt at preserving the good name hitherto enjoyed in the world's markets by Barbados molasses, and prohibits (*a*) the mixing (if done with the intent to sell or export), (*b*) the sale or export of the mixture, and (*c*) the sale or export of vacuum pan molasses, unless the containing package is branded "Vacuum Pan Molasses."

No. 3. An Act relating to letters of request for serving process for foreign courts. The Act adopts the new English rules of court relating to the executions of commissions rogatoires and letters of request emanating from foreign tribunals.

No. 4. An Act to declare certain rights of the General Assembly. The object of this Act is to restore to the House of Assembly a right of which it was unintentionally deprived in 1896, namely, the right, possessed and exercised by the House from the earliest times, of fixing the salaries of its officers at the first sitting after every general election. In the desire to reduce expenditure in 1896, this prerogative of the House was overlooked and the salaries of the officers were fixed by statute (Act 1896-19).

No. 7. An Act to facilitate the making of a geological survey of the island with the view of ascertaining whether there is any prospect of developing and establishing an oil industry in the Colony.

No. 12. An Act to declare the boundaries of the several parishes of this island, which provides that the boundaries of the parishes as delineated in Parson's map of the island shall be deemed to be the real boundaries.

No. 14. An Act to provide for the registration of deep sea fishing boats. The object of the Act is to ensure the safety of fishermen employed in deep sea fishing boats. A Fishery Board is constituted, and inspection, registration, and licensing of boats is made compulsory.

No. 18. An Act to amend the Highways Act, 1900 (1900-7), the object of which is to get rid of the common law rule that a parish is bound by law to repair all roads within its boundaries which have been dedicated to and used by the public, although there be no adoption of such roads by the parish.

No. 19. An Act to amend the Reformatory and Industrial School Act, 1890 (1890-16). By this Act is introduced a system of supervision of the boys on the expiration of the period of their detention at the school, and a boy may be kept under supervision until the age of 19.

No. 22. The Canada and West Indies Reciprocity (Tariff) Agreement Act, 1912. The Act ratifies the Agreement, set out in the Schedule, which was entered into on the 9th day of April, 1912, between Canada and certain of the West Indian Colonies. Provision is made that the preference granted to Canada shall be extended to the United Kingdom and all British possessions.

No. 23. The Customs Tariff Act, 1912, which gives effect to the Agreement mentioned in No. 22.

No. 25. The offences against the Persons (Amendment) Act, 1912, which provides that sentence of death shall not be pronounced on persons under the age of 16 years.

No. 28. The Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1912, under which two new offices were created, namely, an Inspector of Public Health, and a Bacteriologist and Pathologist.

No. 31. The Registration of Births, Baptisms, Marriages and Burials (Amendment) Act, 1912, provides for the recopying of dilapidated registers. The new form of burial certificate prescribed by the Act will disclose whether the person buried is or is not illegitimate, and will afford evidence as to the correctness of the allegation that the percentage of deaths of illegitimate children is greater than the percentage of deaths of legitimate children.

In addition to the above Acts, a resolution granting £3,000 for the installation of a radio-telegraph system was passed by Legislature.

EDUCATION.

58. The total expenditure under this head in 1912-13 was £23,433, as compared with £19,382 in 1911-12, showing an

increase of £4,051 in 1912-13. The cause of the increase has been already given in paragraph 12 of this report.

59. Codrington College, founded in 1745 and opened as a college in 1830, is affiliated to Durham University. No legislative grant is made to Codrington, but four scholarships, each of the annual value of £40, and tenable for two years, are provided for annually on the Estimates. Twenty scholars were on the roll in 1912, which number is the same as in the previous year.

60. The statistics relating to the first and second grade schools which receive legislative grants are shown in the following table:—

Name.	Legislative Grant.	Pupils' Fees.	No. of Pupils on Rolls.
Boys.			
First Grade—	£	£	£
Harrison College	1,000	1,982	153
The Lodge School...	500	756	65
Second Grade—			
Combermere School	450	1,003	175
Coleridge School	100	64	17
Alleyne School	50	7	12
Parry School	100	76	25
Christ Church Foundation School	100	61	55
Girls.			
First Grade—			
Queen's College	400	827	98
Second Grade—			
Alexandra School	175	143	37

61. The upper forms of the two first grade boys' schools are annually examined by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Schools Board, whilst the upper forms of the other schools are presented for the Cambridge Junior and Senior Local Examinations.

62. There are six exhibitions from primary to first grade schools of £25, tenable for six years; also 35 open first grade exhibitions at £10 each and 60 open second grade exhibitions of £5 each, tenable for varying periods.

63. The statistics relating to the primary schools, with a comparison of the totals for 1912 and 1911, are given in the following table:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Rolls.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant.
				£
Church of England	128	20,906	12,039	10,244
Moravian	16	2.358	1.345	1,245
Wesleyan	17	3,012	1,740	1,530
Total for 1912 ...	161	26,276	15,124	13,019
Total for 1911 ...	166	28,050	16,314	12,819

64. The reduction in the number of schools is owing to the policy being pursued by the Education Board of amalgamating schools wherever possible, and providing larger schools and better accommodation than previously existed. The reduction in the number of scholars is attributed by the Board to the effect of the drought, which caused parents to be unable to send their children to school regularly.

65. There were four ragged schools in 1912, with 326 scholars on the rolls, and an average attendance of 165, as compared with 321 scholars and an average attendance of 184 in 1911. The amount of the legislative grant was £88, as compared with £96 in 1911.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

66. Provision exists for an annual scholarship of the value of £175 per annum, tenable for four years during membership, at one of the universities of Europe or Canada, or any agricultural or technical college in Europe or America which may be approved by the Education Board.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

67. The Barbados General Hospital, situated in Bridgetown, is not, strictly speaking, a Government institution, nor is it under Government control. It is maintained by a legislative grant, and governed by a Court of Directors of 18 members, of whom two are life members, whereas the remainder—selected pursuant to statute—must either be Government officers, sitting ex-officio, or members of the Legislature.

68. In 1912, the Government grant was £7,850. With a daily average of 200 in the hospital, there were 4,564 admissions, 374 deaths and 27,813 out-patients. The prescriptions prepared amounted to 46,453. These figures are all in excess of those for 1911, when they respectively were 3,759 admissions, 276 deaths, and 27,132 out-patients, prescriptions being 40,872.

69. During the year, considerable extensions to the buildings were carried out, greatly increasing the accommodation hitherto provided. The new buildings were formally opened by Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein on 28th April, 1913, and Her Highness graciously accepted—as a memento of the occasion—a cup bearing the following inscription:—

Ego
misericordiae dolorem levantis signo
delectus illustrissimae regiae domus
alumnae Mariae Louisae ipsi eiusdem
misericordiae exemplari hospitii
infirmis curandis in insula Barbadoe
publico sumptu sustenti et nuper aucti
nova aedificia faustis auspiciis coram
populo inauguranti ante diem IV. Kal. mai.
anno salutis nostrae MCMXIII.
donatus sum.

70. At the lazaretto there were 15 admissions and 11 deaths, leaving 120 inmates at the end of the year. The average daily number was 118·4, compared with 114·6 in 1911. The average stay of those who died was 11·1 years, and of those remaining 9·8 years. Compulsory segregation is not in force in the Colony.

71. At the lunatic asylum the daily average number of patients fell from 420 in 1911 to 400 in 1912. There were 94 admissions, as compared with 100 in 1911, and 82 deaths, as compared with 54. Forty-four patients were discharged as cured, and two as relieved; the numbers for 1911 being 25 and five respectively. The average stay of the patients who died was 6·66 years, as against 4·175 years in 1911. The revenue obtained from the farm was £537, and the expenditure having been £486, a profit of £51 was shown on the year's operations. This, although smaller than the profit made in other years, is gratifying when the unfavourable weather conditions of 1912 are taken into consideration.

72. At Glendairy Prison the daily average number of prisoners rose from 204 in 1911 to 227 in 1912, and the number of persons committed to penal imprisonment from 1,767 to 2,062, an increase of 295 in 1912. The estimated value of the prison labour employed outside and inside the prison was £1,088, to which should be added £645, the estimated profit on the bread made at the prison for supplying certain Government institutions.

73. The number of boys at the Government Industrial School rose from 140 in 1911 to 161 in 1912, with a daily average of 148. The boys were employed in agriculture and other manual labour for an average of six hours a day. They are at school for 2½ hours, and at meals, recreation, drill, &c., for 4½ hours a day.

74. The receipts of the school amounted to £1,753, and the expenditure to £2,718, which makes the cost of the boys' side of the school £965, or £6 10*s.* 5*d.* per boy.

75. An industrial school for girls was opened in 1912. During the year 28 girls were received, and as regards hours of employment, schooling, meals, &c., their life will be regulated by rules similar to those obtaining in the boys' institution. The cost of the new school amounted to £794 during the year; and its establishment has met a long felt want.

76. The transactions of the savings bank in 1912, compared with 1911, are shown in the following table:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
Number of depositors	20,752	20,683	69	—
	£	£	£	£
Amount to credit of depositors ...	435,332	435,966	—	634
Amount of invested funds (actual)	490,154	463,090	27,064	—

77. The deposits amounted to £253,013, and the withdrawals to £266,231. The average amount of receipts from each depositor was £12, and the percentage of depositors to an estimated population of 172,000 is 12. The interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent., and is fixed by statute.

78. The next table gives particulars relating to friendly societies, established to raise funds for the relief of members and their families in times of sickness and death, as well as means for defraying funeral expenses of members and their families:—

—	1912.	1911.	Decrease.
Number of societies	278	280	2
Number of members...	46,668	47,951	1,283
Number of dependents	126,157	135,801	9,644

79. It should be noted, in connection with the numbers of members and dependents given above, that an individual may be a member of more than one society. In spite of the decreases shown in the table, the figures, both for the savings bank and friendly societies, afford gratifying evidence of the existence of habits of thrift among a great proportion of the population.

POST OFFICE.

80. The external postal statistics for 1911 and 1912 are given in the following comparative table, viz:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
Inwards.				
Mails	1,662	1,698	—	36
Bags, &c....	4,228	4,073	155	—
Letters, &c.	1,022,595	984,225	38,370	—
Parcels	19,204	16,404	2,800	—
Outwards.				
Mails	1,714	1,722	—	8
Bags, &c....	2,795	2,752	43	—
Letters, &c.	977,108	918,330	58,778	—
Parcels	5,311	5,128	183	—

81. The increase in letters, &c., received was due to an increase in the correspondence with Brazil, Great Britain, United States, and Canada.

82. The increase shown against parcels occurred in nearly all the places, but principally from the Canal Zone and United States of America.

83. The increase in letters, &c., despatched occurred principally in those sent to the Panama Canal Zone and Canada.

84. The estimated number of internal letters, &c., dealt with in 1912 was 860,151, as compared with 781,884 in 1911, an increase of 78,267.

85. The following remittances were received through the post office:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
Issued.	£	£	£	£
Money Orders	11,953	14,333	—	2,380
British Postal Orders	6,021	5,606	415	—
Paid.				
Money Orders	90,049	83,090	6,959	—
British Postal Orders	5,436	5,351	85	—

86. The greatest increase occurred in the orders received from the Panama Canal Zone, but, owing to the continuous emigration of Barbadians to the United States and Canada, the orders from those places also increased in amount during 1912.

87. The following table shows a comparison between the principle places of destination and origin of money orders in 1911 and 1912:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
Destination of Orders issued :—	£	£	£	£
Great Britain...	4,684	5,950	—	1,266
United States...	3,045	3,797	—	752
Panama Canal Zone	494	541	—	47
Canada	513	699	—	186
British West Indies	3,189	3,256	—	67
Places of origin of Orders paid :—				
Great Britain...	1,413	1,545	—	132
United States...	17,128	15,808	1,320	—
Panama Canal Zone... ...	56,042	51,010	5,032	—
Canada	5,093	3,982	1,111	—
British West Indies	10,254	10,593	—	339

88. The table next following gives a comparison of the postal revenue and expenditure for 1911 and 1912:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Revenue	10,335	8,364	1,971	—
Expenditure	7,693	7,803	—	110

showing a net revenue of £2,642 in 1912, as compared with £561 in 1911.

89. As previously stated, the increase in the revenue in 1912 was largely due to the issue of the new King George V. design of postage stamps, but a small portion is due to an increase in the correspondence.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

90. The following table affords a comparison with the previous year:—

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.
Summary convictions	11,592	11,142	450
Convictions in Superior Courts ...	60	38	22

91. The percentage of convictions to an estimated population of 172,000 has risen from 6·49 in 1911 to 6·73 in 1912. The estimates of the population for several years previous to the census year, 1911, were based upon calculations—possibly erroneous—and consequently no reliable comparison with those years can be made.

92. The number of convictions for prædial larceny (1,055) in 1912 is greater than the number in any one year since 1905, when the number reached 1,120, and it almost equals the number (1,097) of convictions in the two years 1910 and 1911 taken together. The cause is not to be attributed to a sudden increase in the criminal tendencies of the population, but should rather be regarded as an indirect effect of the distress, in many cases almost amounting to starvation, which prevailed to a great extent among the population as a consequence of the prolonged drought experienced in 1912.

93. The number of convictions in the Superior Courts also shows a large increase. It is in fact larger than the number in any year since 1905, when the number was 70. Summary convictions show an increase of 450 over 1911, and the number (11,592) is greater than that of any year since 1902 (11,685).

94. The number of cane fires was 123, as compared with 108 in 1911, showing an increase of 15 in 1912.

VITAL STATISTICS.

95. The population of the Colony on 31st December, 1912, was estimated to be 172,203, of which 71,641 were males and 100,562 females.

96. The figures of the census of the Colony taken on April 2nd, 1911, are shown in the Blue Book. The totals mentioned in the preceding paragraph take into account corrections for births, burials, emigration, and immigration since the census, and show an estimated increase of 310 in the population.

97. The following table gives a comparison of the births and deaths for 1911 and 1912.

—	1912.	1911.	Increase.	Decrease.
Births	6,338	6,106	232	—
Birth rate per 1,000	36·8	35·2	1·6	—
Burials	7,066	4,561	2,505	—
Death rate per 1,000	41	26·3	14·7	—
Marriages	702	812	—	110

98. Illegitimate births numbered 3,779, or 59·6 per cent. of the total births, as against 58 per cent. in 1911, and 58·8 per cent. in 1910.

99. Of the 7,066 burials recorded, 3,957, or 56 per cent., were those of children under the age of five years, the percentages for 1911 and 1910 being 51·4 and 52·5 respectively.

100. The number of burials of children under one year was 2,642, a rate of 416 per 1,000, as against 263 in 1911, and 268 per 1,000 for 1910.

101. As there was no outbreak of quarantinable disease in 1912, the enormous increase in the number of burials must be attributed to the privation consequent on the drought experienced throughout the year.

METEOROLOGY.

102. The barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station on the average for 1912, corrected for temperature, reduced to sea level and corrected for gravity, was at 9 a.m. 29·917 inches, and at 3 p.m. 29·850 inches. The highest recorded during the year was 30·048 inches on February 24th, and the lowest 29·712 inches on October 17th. For the ten years 1903-12 inclusive, the average barometric pressure, corrected for temperature and reduced to sea-level, was at 9 a.m. 29·950 inches, and at 3 p.m. 29·884 inches. The highest average pressure for that period at 9 a.m. was 30·113 inches, and the lowest at 3 p.m. 29·710 inches.

103. The average maximum temperature for the year 1912 was 84·3° F., and the average minimum 75·7° F. The highest temperature for the year was 90·1° F., registered on September 28th, and the lowest 64·4° F. on April 3rd. The mean average temperature for the year was 80·0° F., the average range 19·2° F., the maximum range 23·1° F., and the minimum range 16·5° F. For the ten years 1903-12 the average maximum temperature was 84·1° F., and the average minimum 75·5° F. The maximum extreme during the ten years was 90·1° F. on April 17, 1905, and on September 28, 1912; and the minimum extreme was 61·0° F. on February 20, 1911. The mean average temperature for the ten years was 79·8° F., and the average range 19·2° F.

104. The average velocity of the wind during 1912 was 12·2 miles per hour, the maximum being 25·3 miles per hour on

June 30, and the minimum 3·4 miles per hour on September 6 and October 18. The average velocity for the ten years ended 1912 was 11·3 miles per hour.

105. The rainfall registered at the Government Meteorological Station amounted to 34·79 inches. This fell on 178 days, the greatest fall being 4·45 inches on October 6th, and the lowest ·01 on February 21 and 25, March 27, May 9 and 23, June 6, July 1, September 1 and 4, and December 30.

106. The average rainfall for the island for the year, from 145 stations, was 41·49 inches, as compared with 59·28 inches, from 154 stations, for the previous year, and with 61·51 inches, from an average of 120 stations, for the 66 years ended 1912.

107. The rainfall in Barbados is extremely localised as regards distribution over the island. In England it is possible to describe several counties in the daily returns of rainfall. In Barbados, however, there would be notable inaccuracy even if the description was limited to parishes, because the clouds are so capricious that while one planter is looking at a rapidly filling rain-gauge with chuckling contentment, a neighbour may be alluding—with a planter's emphasis—to the rainless sunshine which threatens to make his pocket absolutely empty. This characteristic applies as well to those parishes which are flat and without hills as to those which are of an entirely hilly character, and to those which contain both flat lands and hills. Cases frequently occur where, in adjoining plantations of a few hundred acres each in the same parish and with similar natural features, one will be abundantly watered and the other remain dry. A recent case may be cited where in three adjoining plantations in St. Peter's parish the precipitation of rain on one was 4 inches, while in each of the adjoining properties the precipitation was only four-hundredths of one inch. There are no woods nor forests in the island which in other places may account for differences occurring in the rainfall, and no explanation of the peculiarity can be found in natural causes. The fact may be of interest as partially explaining the difference in the crop results of adjoining plantations, which in some cases are startling. If the cause is not understood these results might often, and particularly in the case of absentee owners, be mistakenly attributed to bad or inferior management.

GENERAL REMARKS.

108. In many paragraphs of this report mention has been made of the drought of 1912; yet its consequences were so far-reaching and its effects were so adversely felt in every direction as to make a special reference necessary. It caused a decrease in the revenue and a decrease in the trade of the Colony, as well as a practical failure of the provision crops, with resulting high prices for imported foodstuffs, increasing the cost of living for all classes. It diminished the wage earnings of the people and swelled the ranks of the recipients of poor relief. It increased the number of

criminals, brought many to the verge of starvation, and, most serious of all, it was the undoubted cause of the very high increase in the death rate. And though it was thus the cause of great and immediate suffering in 1912, its full results will not be apparent until 1913, when its effects on the revenue and trade of the Colony will, undoubtedly, be very marked. The subject cannot be dismissed without referring to the admirable spirit of fortitude and patience displayed by the people in their sufferings.

109. Following on the passage of the Act to provide for a geological survey of the island, the services of Mr. E. H. Cunningham-Craig, a geologist of high repute and standing in the oil world, were engaged by the Government, and this gentleman began his survey in 1912. Although Mr. Craig's report was not received until March 1913, it may not be out of place to mention briefly here the conclusion arrived at by him, namely: "That a prosperous, if not very large local industry in oil producing and refining can be established in this Colony." If this prediction be realised, a new and important industry—which cannot fail to increase the material prosperity of the Colony—will be added to those now existing.

110. During the year a discovery of some scientific and practical interest was made by the local Department of Agriculture. As the result of investigations pursued by Mr. W. Nowell, Assistant Superintendent, it was ascertained that the larva of a wasp (*Tiphia parallela*) had been discovered to be parasitic on the larva of the brown hard-back beetle (*Phytalus smithi*). The discovery was reported to the Government of Mauritius, in which Colony serious loss has been for some time occasioned to sugar cane plantations by the devastation of the cane fields by the *Phytalus*. With the view to introducing the parasite into Mauritius, shipments of the *Tiphia* and its larva were made to that Colony during the year. It is not yet known whether the experiment has proved successful, but further efforts in this direction will be made in 1913. The *Phytalus*, although its existence has been known in this Colony for some time, does no special damage to the cane fields, being held in check by the *Tiphia*.

111. So far no central sugar factory has been erected under the Central Sugar Factory Act, 1911, because no group of plantation owners has yet been formed to take advantage of the provisions of the Act. But there have been erected by private individuals a number of small factories with improved milling and manufacturing powers. The capacity of these small factories ranges from 1,000 to 3,000 tons of sugar per season, and it is believed they are being operated with successful results. In this connection it should be stated that, following on the agreement for reciprocal trade relations recently concluded between the Dominion of Canada and certain of the West Indian Islands, a stable market is believed to have been secured for sugar, whereby the prospects of the sugar industry—the mainstay of this Colony—have been considerably improved.

112. Owing to its freedom from malaria, and its excellent winter climate, the island continues to be largely visited by tourists and persons in search of health. The number of tourists in

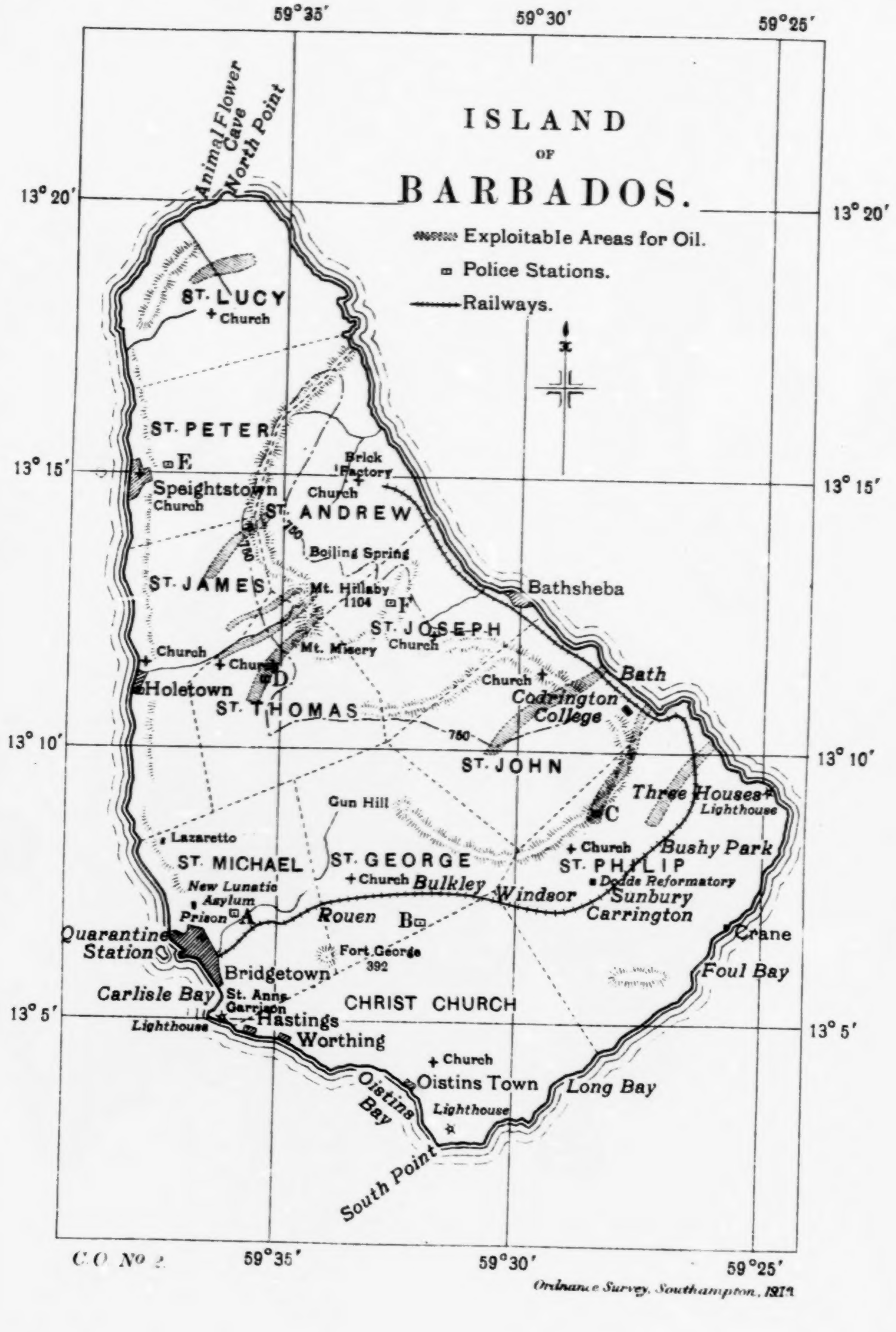
1912 was 2,741, as compared with 2,164 in 1911, and 644 in 1910. In addition, 3,929 first-class passengers arrived in the Colony. It is difficult to determine exactly the benefit accruing to the Colony from this source, but that it is of some importance is certain, since the expenditure of these visitors—whose stay is frequently of some months duration—causes an appreciable increase in the circulation of money. Hotel and house accommodation for these visitors is increasing.

113. During the year £56,042 were received from Panama through post office orders, and £12,773 were declared by emigrants returning thence. These figures show an increase of £3,772, as compared with 1911. There was also received from the United States £17,128 in money orders, and from Canada £5,093. These figures show an increase of £2,431 over 1911. Although part of these amounts must be credited to business transactions, a large proportion is undoubtedly due to remittances sent by Barbadian emigrants to assist their folk at home. Besides amounts so remitted, other sums are sent by registered letters, of which no account can be taken.

114. In conclusion, notwithstanding the adverse weather conditions of 1912, and the check thereby occasioned to the prosperity of the Colony, good reasons exist for believing that the set-back will only be of temporary duration.

W. L. C. Phillips,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados,
8th November, 1913.



ISLAND OF BARBADOS.

▨ Exploitable Areas for Oil.
▫ Police Stations.
— Railways.
59°35′
59°30′
59°25′
13°20′
13°15′
13°10′
13°5′
Animal Flower Cave
North Point
ST. LUCY
Church
ST. PETER
E
Speightstown
Church
Brick Factory
Church
ST. ANDREW
750
Boiling Spring
ST. JAMES
Mt. Hillaby
1104
F
ST. JOSEPH
Church
Bathsheba
Mt. Misery
Church
Church
D
Holetown
ST. THOMAS
Church
Bath
Codrington College
750
ST. JOHN
Three Houses
Lighthouse
C
Gun Hill
Lazaretto
Church
Bushy Park
ST. MICHAEL
ST. GEORGE
ST. PHILIP
Church
New Lunatic Asylum
Bulkley
Windsor
Dodds Reformatory
Sunbury
Carrington
Prison
A
Rouen
B
Quarantine Station
Crane
Fort George
392
Bridgetown
Foul Bay
Carlisle Bay
St. Anns Garrison
CHRIST CHURCH
Hastings
Lighthouse
Worthing
Church
Oistins Town
Long Bay
Oistins Bay
Lighthouse
South Point

C.O. No 2

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1919

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
744	Mauritius	1911
745	Trinidad and Tobago	1911–1912
746	British Guiana	"
747	St. Vincent	"
748	Barbados	"
749	Leeward Islands	"
750	Straits Settlements	1911
751	East African Protectorate	1911–1912
752	St. Lucia	"
753	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1911
754	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1911–1912
755	Gibraltar	1912
756	St. Helena	"
757	Weihaiwei	"
758	Ceylon	1911–1912
759	Sierra Leone	1912
760	Seychelles	"
761	Somaliland	1912–1913
762	Hong Kong	1912
763	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
764	Falkland Islands	"
765	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
766	Bahamas	"
767	Gambia	"
768	Fiji	"
769	Basutoland	1912–1913
770	Gold Coast	1912
771	Ashanti	"
772	Nyasaland	1912–1913
773	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
774	British Solomon Islands	"
775	Colonial Survey Committee	"
776	Tonga Islands Protectorate	1911–1913
777	Swaziland	1912–1913
778	Imperial Institute	1912

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
77	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement Fund.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.

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1913.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 824.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1913–14.

(For Report for 1912–13 see No. 779.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

December, 1914.

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No. 824.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1912–13 see 779).

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Barbados,
10th November, 1914.

SIR,

I have the honour to advise the transmission of six copies of the Blue Book of Barbados for the year 1913–14, together with the report thereon by Major J. A. Burdon, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, etc.,
L. PROBYN,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
Lewis Harcourt, P.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

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REPORT ON THE BARBADOS BLUE BOOK FOR 1913-14.

FINANCIAL.

General.

1. In the year 1913–14 :—

	£
The Revenue was	214,865
The Expenditure was	222,177
Deficit on year's transactions	£7,312

The balance to the credit of the general revenue, which stood at £56,628 at the close of the financial year 1912–13, was thus reduced to £49,316, a sum still £2,683 greater than the credit balance of March 31st, 1911.

2. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

Year.	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
1909–10	195,803	199,625
1910–11	213,298	211,949
1911–12	221,906	215,697
1912–13*	221,624	221,340
1913–14	214,865	222,177

Revenue.

3. The Revenue was £6,759 less than that for the previous year. This decrease was due to the short sugar crop of 1913, resulting from the serious drought of 1912. No new or additional taxation was imposed during the year.

4. The principal heads under which increases and decreases occurred were :—

	Increase. £	Decrease. £
Import Duties	—	3,357
Petroleum Warehouse Rent ..	234	—
Molehead Fees	217	—
Excise..	—	433
Fees and Fines	466	—
Fees of Office	—	304
Post Office	—	1,524
Reimbursements-in-Aid	—	10,988
Special Receipts	—	2,946
Water Works Department	—	604

---

*Excluding a refund of £12,502, credited to revenue, and £9,000 debited to expenditure pending recovery by loan. These extraordinary amounts of receipt and disbursement are deducted here to prevent any misunderstanding in what is intended as a comparison of normal revenue and expenditure.

5. The causes of the above increases were :—

Petroleum Warehouse Rent.—Increased import of petroleum, due to increase in number of motor cars in use.

Molehead Fees.—Increase of tonnage entering the Careenage.

Fees and Fines.—Increase of work in the Criminal Courts.

6. The causes of decreases were :—

Import Duties.—The decrease in the sugar crop, resulting in reduction of purchasing power.

Excise.—A smaller consumption of rum.

Post Office.—The falling off in the sale of stamps, which had been abnormally inflated the previous year by a new issue.

Special Receipts.—The falling off in the deposits by passengers under the Quarantine Act.

Reimbursements-in-Aid.—The abnormal receipt in the preceding year of the refund of £12,502 alluded to in note to paragraph 2.

Expenditure.

7. The expenditure for 1913–14, which exceeded that for the previous year, omitting its extraordinary disbursements, by £837, is the highest recorded for the Colony, expenditure due to grants-in-aid being omitted from consideration.

8. The principal heads under which increases and decreases occurred were :—

	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£
Customs	1,229	—
Medical Department	1,105	—
Water Works Department	2,881	—
Pensions	1,473	—
Public Works (Recurrent)	1,737	—
Public Works (Extraordinary)	453	—
Miscellaneous Services	—	*8,090
Offices of Colonial Secretary, Colonial Treasurer and Auditor-General ..	417	—
Legal Department	—	403
Education	—	475
Charges of Debt	471	—

9. The chief causes of the above increases were :—

Customs.—Refund of duty on preferential articles which paid at higher rate pending certificates of origin.

---

*The £9,000 extraordinary expenditure of the previous year, alluded to in note to paragraph 2, is here omitted from consideration.

Medical Department.—Appointment of a Public Health Inspector and a Bacteriologist, with upkeep of their offices.

Public Works (Recurrent).—The remittance of the sum due for the Public Buildings Insurance Fund for 1912–13 as well as for the current year added to increased expenditure on repairs of dredger and public buildings.

Public Works (Extraordinary).—The purchase of a workshop.

Offices of Colonial Secretary, etc.—Increase of salaries of certain officers.

Charges of Debt.—Interest on new loans.

10. The chief causes of the decreases were:—

Miscellaneous Services.—Reduced expenditure on hospital enlargement, revision of laws and Bay Street improvement; absence of extraordinary expenditure, such as purchase of Pleasant Vale and special grant to Lodge School in 1912–13; and reduction in refunds to passengers under Quarantine Act. The latter reduction is balanced by the falling off in deposits by passengers, mentioned under "Special Receipts" in paragraph 6.

Legal Departments.—Amalgamation of certain offices.

Education.—Smaller grant-in-aid to Public Elementary Schools.

Assets and Liabilities.

11. The excess of assets over liabilities, which at the close of the previous financial year stood at £50,942, fell to £44,121 on March 31st, 1914.

Public Debt.

12. There has been no increase in the public debt during the year under report, the amount remaining at £436,900. The sinking fund increased from £99,902 on March 31st, 1913, to £113,591 on March 31st, 1914. This represents a decrease in liability during the year of £13,689.

Parochial Revenue and Expenditure.

13. The following table shows the comparison of the total revenue and expenditure of the several parishes of the Island for this and the previous financial year:—

	1913–14. £	1912–13. £	Increase. £
Revenue	67,737	61,011	6,726
Expenditure ..	66,097	60,377	5,720

The amount expended on poor relief during the year was £21,190, being £656 less than the amount necessitated by the drought of the previous financial year.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

Trade.

14. The following table shows the trade of the Colony for 1913 compared with that for the previous year:—

	1913	1912	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Value of Imports	1,353,059	1,465,431	—	112,372
Value of Exports	856,618	1,085,569	—	228,951
Excess of Imports.. ..	496,441	379,862	116,579	—

The decrease in both imports and exports is due to the short sugar crop, and the decrease in value of both sugar and cotton crops for 1913. The facts that the imports did not decrease in proportion to the exports, and that the excess of imports increased by some 30 per cent., prove the value of the revenue derived from sources other than agriculture.

Imports.

15. The following comparative table for the past two years shows the countries from which imports chiefly came:—

	1913	1912	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	518,611	559,629	—	41,018
Canada	192,495	183,800	8,695	—
Newfoundland	37,055	24,299	12,756	—
British West Indies and British Guiana	113,013	87,970	25,043	—
India	29,247	74,965	—	45,718
Foreign Countries—				
United States	381,259	426,652	—	45,393
Argentine Republic ..	23,444	30,701	—	7,257
Foreign West Indies and Guiana	11,483	12,664	—	1,181
Chili	Nil.	6,500	—	6,500
France	3,838	7,074	—	3,236
Germany	9,173	17,044	—	7,871
Holland	13,261	12,297	964	—

The great fall in imports from India is due largely to the development of British Guiana into a rice-producing country, and the consequent transfer of rice importation from India to that Colony.

16. The following table gives the percentage of imports from the principal countries of origin for the past two years:—

	1913.	1912.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	38	38
Canada	14	13
United States of America ..	28	29

The decrease by £41,018 in imports from the United Kingdom is proportional to the total decrease, and has therefore not affected her percentage. It is as yet too early to attempt to calculate the effect of preference on Canadian and other British and Colonial trade. The import from Canada of certain articles, notably flour, undoubtedly increased at the expense of the United States and other non-preferential sources. But it is impossible to state that the increase shown in imports from Canada, Newfoundland and the British West Indies is solely or mainly due to the preference of the last six months of the year.

17. A comprehensive table prepared by the Comptroller of Customs shows that the effect on the revenue of the Preferential Tariff Act, which was in operation from June 2nd, 1913, was a net loss to the revenue of £9. It would, however, be mielsading to accept the result of the first six months' working of Preference as a conclusive guide to its permanent effect, for the reason that the coming into operation of the Preferential Tariff found a quantity of British goods in bond. These goods eventually, in the absence of a certificate of origin, paid the higher rate of duty.

18. The following table gives the value of the principal imports from Canada for the past two years:—

(a) *Articles showing an increase:*

	1913	1912	Increase.
	£	£	£
Cheese	2,395	2,244	151
Pickled Fish	2,297	1,976	321
Flour	42,112	39,414	2,698
Oats..	14,835	12,670	2,165
Sulphate of Ammonia	46,752	41,026	5,726
Other Manures	1,967	1,325	642
Wood	38,126	32,339	5,787
Shingles	14,473	10,891	3,582

(*b*) *Articles showing a decrease:*

	1913	1912	Decrease.
	£	£	£
Motor Cars	326	1,373	1,047
Cordage	749	1,013	264
Fish, dried, salted and smoked ..	14,994	18,174	3,180
Bran and Pollard	1,036	1,941	905
Pulse	Nil	963	963
Hay	965	2,070	1,105
Iron Nails, Rivets, &c.	899	1,384	485
Fresh Vegetables	527	1,171	644
Staves and Shooks	429	3,334	2,905

19. It will be seen that the most substantial changes are on the side of "Increase." The decrease in the import of salt fish from Canada is far more than accounted for by an increase of £12,377 in the import of this article from Newfoundland. The decrease in the import of motor cars from Canada is apparently due to an increased import from the United States. The decreases under hay and Staves and Shooks are due to decreases in the total imports under these heads.

Exports.

20. The following table gives a comparison of the value of exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony with the value of exports the produce and manufacture of British and foreign countries.

	1913.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Produce, &c., of the Colony	527,606	765,528	—	237,922
Produce, &c., of other Countries	329,012	320,041	8,971	—

21. The following table gives a comparison of the value of principal exports, the produce and manufacture of the Colony, with that for the previous year :—

	1913.	1912	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Bread and Crackers ..	7,018	13,048	—	6,030
Cotton Seed Meal	2,293	4,769	—	2,476
Cotton, raw	23,460	26,191	—	2,731
Hides and Skins	4,922	4,605	317	—
Oleomargarine	3,310	2,128	1,182	—
Molasses, Choice	37,480	81,739	—	44,259
„ Fancy	339,130	301,876	37,254	—
Sugar, Crystals	50,967	152,763	—	101,796
„ Muscovado ..	39,704	159,910	—	120,206

22. The following table compares the molasses and sugar shipments in quantity as well as in value :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
Molasses, choice—				
Puncheons	8,608	21,510	—	12,902
Value .. £	37,480	81,739	—	44,259
Molasses, fancy—				
Puncheons	73,992	63,553	10,439	—
Value .. .. £	339,130	301,876	37,254	—
Sugar, crystals—				
Hogsheads	5,654	12,741	—	7,087
Value .. .. £	50,967	152,763	—	101,796
Sugar, muscovado—				
Hogsheads	5,672	15,991	—	10,319
Value .. .. £	39,704	159,910	—	120,206

23. The following table gives the comparison of the average prices for the two years :—

	1913.	1912.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Molasses, choice—per puncheon	4 7 0	3 16 0
„ fancy „	4 11 8	4 15 0
Sugar, crystals, dark—per hogshead	8 15 0	12 0 0
„ „ yellow „	10 10 0	12 0 0
„ muscovado „	7 0 0	10 0 0

From this it will be seen that the Colony not only suffered from a shortage in the sugar crop but also from a fall in the price of every sugar product except choice molasses. The result was a net decrease in the value of the export of the staple industry of the Colony by £229,007.

24. The following table gives the comparison in quantity and value for cotton exported during the two years :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
Cotton, raw .. lbs.	433,099	415,887	17,212	—
Value .. .. £	23,460	26,191	—	1,731
Cotton Seed Meal .. lbs.	1,310,016	763,184	546,832	—
Value .. .. £	2,293	6*	957	—

The average price per lb. of raw cotton fell from 1*s*. 3·1*d*. in 1912 to 1*s*. 1·0*d*. in 1913. The benefit of an increase in quantity was thus more than negatived by the fall in value.

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*The value of the cotton seed meal exported in 1912 is incorrectly stated in the Blue Book and the report thereon for that year.

25. The following table gives the destination of the principal products exported for the past two years :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	55,170	57,455	—	2,285
Canada	312,053	525,506	—	213,453
Newfoundland	45,964	53,877	—	7,913
United States	69,200	66,956	2,244	—

26. The destination of the bulk of the sugar has been :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	21,087	18,830	2,257	—
Canada	53,212	261,941	—	208,729
British West Indies ..	6,152	10,800	—	4,648
Holland	3,968	6,932	—	2,964
United States	Nil	2,280	—	2,280

And of the molasses :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	7,574	7,014	560	—
Canada	258,568	263,469	—	4,901
Newfoundland	45,830	52,766	—	6,936
United States	62,643	58,504	4,139	—

27. The transit export trade shows an increase of £8,971 over that for 1912. The figures for the past five years are :—

	£
1909	3 1,756
1910	305,705
1911	283,185
1912	320,041
1913	329,012

Shipping.

28. The following table gives the comparison of shipping entered at the port of Bridgetown for the past two years :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
Steamers, number.. ..	709	740	—	31
„ tonnage	1,753,356	1,679,208	74,148	—
Sailing vessels, number ..	667	671	—	4
„ „ tonnage ..	141,141	149,272	—	8,131

The net increase in tonnage was 66,017 tons.

29. The nationality of the ships entered was :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase	Decrease.
British, number	1,063	1,062	1	—
„ tonnage	1,489,371	1,358,816	130,555	—
Foreign, number	313	349	—	36
„ tonnage	405,126	469,664	—	64,538

30. The following figures show the progress of the coaling business :—

	Steamers coaled.	Tons taken.
1909	219	53,077
1910	272	65,098
1911	275	62,062
1912	302	76,012
1913	265	73,784

31. The following table gives the number of tourist ships during the last two years, with the number of tourists they have brought for a day's visit to the island :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase.
Ships	10	7	3
Tourists ..	4,355	2,741	1,614

32. The following table shows the number of passengers arriving in the island, exclusive of those in transit, for the past two years :—

	1913.	1912.	Decrease.
First Class	3,760	3,929	169
Second and Third Class	10,675	11,289	614

33. Natives of Barbados returning from Panama declared, on landing, to bringing with them sums of money aggregating as follows :—

1913.	1912.	Increase.
£	£	£
19,342	12,773	6,569

Agriculture.

34. The sugar crop has been set out under its various headings in paragraph 22. The following table gives a comprehensive comparison, in terms of tons of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto), of the crops for the past four years :—

	Tons.
1910	52,300
1911	47,610
1912	44,817
1913	31,329

35. The decrease by 13,488 tons for 1913 represents the decrease in the amount exported during the year and not the decrease in the crop itself. Under normal conditions the whole of the crop, which is reaped during the first half of the year, is exported before the end of the year, so that usually the export return fairly represents the year's crop. Owing however to the fall in prices during 1913, merchants held over considerable stocks beyond the close of the year. The result is that a portion of the crop of 1913 will go to swell the export returns of 1914 and that the above decrease overstates the decrease in the crop. But the main cause of the great decrease was the shortness of the crop, due to the exceptionally low rainfall of 1912, 41·49 inches, the lowest on record for 65 years and 20·37 inches below the yearly average for that period.

36. The progress of the crop to be reaped in 1914 was chequered. The rainfall in November and December, 1912, was fair, in January, 1913, was good, and from February to August sufficient. The satisfactory growth was checked by a bad rainfall for September, but recovered during the favourable rains of October and November. But in December a drought set in which lasted in to the reaping season of 1914 and seriously affected the crop for that year.

37. The seedling cane B.6,450, to the drought-resisting qualities of which attention was drawn in the report for 1912–13, continues to give excellent results compared with other varieties. Large areas are under this variety, but the Superintendent of Agriculture reports that if the whole of the 30,000 acres of sugar cane reaped in 1913 had been under B.6,450 the monetary gain to the planters would have been not less than £100,000.

38. The Blue Book and the comparative table in paragraph 24 above show the cotton exported during the calendar year. But the reaping and shipping season for a cotton crop extends from October to the following September. The following table gives the comparison by crops and not by calendar years :—

	Crop of 1912–13.	Crop of 1911–12.	Decrease.
Acres	3,970	4,669	699
Quantity, lbs.	424,392	455,689	31,297
Value	£23,222	£28,112	£4,890

39. The steady reduction of area under cotton is due, as was pointed out last year, to the discouragement caused to planters by the susceptibility of cotton to disease and insect pests. The efforts of the local Department of Agriculture to obtain, by selection and hybridisation, varieties capable of resisting insect pests and fungoid diseases and of giving a yield satisfactory in both quantity and quality are being continued.

40. The shipments of bananas and mangoes to the United Kingdom have decreased during the year, and the efforts of the Department of Agriculture to establish a trade with the United Kingdom in yams and sweet potatoes have not yet achieved any success worth mentioning. The efforts, however, are still being continued.

41. The experimental export of melons to New York suffered from adverse cold storage conditions, and, though not to be classed as a failure, has not yet achieved success.

Industries.

42. There was a decrease of 87,937 gallons in the quantity of rum manufactured, the figures for the past four years being :—

	Gallons.
1910	226,169
1911	254,654
1912	278,937
1913	191,000

43. The liquor licences issued for the past two years were :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase.
Number of licences ..	561	553	8
Revenue therefrom ..	£2,805	£2,765	£40

44. The number of sugar estates has remained unchanged—320 estates—of which 103 are equipped with steam works.

45. The export of manjak has continued to decrease in quantity and increase in value.

	1913.	1912.	Increase.	Decrease.
Manjak exported, tons	116	158	—	42
Value	£1,967	£1,741	£226	—

46. The local manufacture of oleomargarine has made most satisfactory progress, the export figures being :—

	1913.	1912.	Increase.
Pounds	158,900	102,150	56,750
Value	£3,310	£2,128	£1,182

47. The export of locally manufactured crackers (biscuits) has considerably decreased.

	1913.	1912.	Decrease.
Pounds	701,765	1,043,895	342,130
Value	£7,018	£13,048	£6,030

The average price fell from £1 5*s*. to £1 per 100 lbs.

48. There has been a considerable falling off in the receipts of the Barbados Light Railway Company, which decreased from £9,904 in 1911–12 to £7,984 in 1912–13.

LEGISLATION.

49. During the year under review fifty-one Acts were passed by the Legislature. Of these the more important are :—

No. 1. An Act to facilitate the making of loans on the security of chattel buildings. The object of this Act is to authorise the lending and borrowing of money on the security of the property referred to. It takes all mortgages by deed of such property out of the operation of the Bills of Sales Act and provides that they shall be registered like mortgages of real property with the like effect of registration on priority as between different mortgagees and shall be realizable in the same manner as if they were executions on judgments.

No. 6. An Act to amend the Education Act, 1890. This Act has three objects : (1) It incorporates the Education Board so that schools and other property owned by them are vested in continuous succession in that body ; (2) it enables the Board, when necessary, to acquire land compulsorily ; and (3) it throws open to women the Barbados Scholarship of the annual value of £175 at any British and certain foreign universities.

No. 9. An Act to provide for the Improvement of the City of Bridgetown. It authorises the purchase by the Government of certain lands in the area burnt out by the fire in July, 1910, and the making of a new road in the City of Bridgetown through the lands so acquired. It also authorises the sale of any of the land so purchased which may not be required.

No. 11. An Act to establish Limited Partnerships. The Act is a transcript, with formal omissions and modifications, of the Imperial Limited Partnerships Act of 1907.

No. 17. An Act to amend the Police Act, 1908. The effect of this Act is that it changes the title of the present office of Sub-Inspector of Police to that of Inspector; it abolishes, as a statutory requirement, the condition that the Inspector General shall be an officer holding military or naval rank; it authorises the Governor to confer military rank, not above that of Captain, on the Inspector, and it restricts the Inspector General of Police to the use of one horse instead of two horses, but provides for travelling expenses incurred in the performance of his duty.

No. 38. An Act to amend the Prisons Act, 1890. The object of this Act is to authorise the taking of finger prints of prisoners and the Governor in Council is empowered to make rules as to measuring and photographing prisoners at any appointed place.

No. 41. An Act to amend the Pension Act, 1907. This Act allows a public officer who, having served twenty years, is removed for general inefficiency to enjoy the benefits of the Pension Act, both as regards pension and assurance, in the same manner as if he had resigned from the service and had proved that he was permanently incapacitated for his duties and that the incapacity was not due to his own misconduct.

No. 46. An Act for incorporating the Barbados Automobile Association in the Island of Barbados, with limited liability. This Act is a private one and incorporates an association of persons called "The Barbados Automobile Association" in a manner and with rights and subject to conditions that have been usual in similar cases in this Island.

No. 47. An Act to amend the Trade Act, 1910. Under this Act infringing copies made out of the Island of works protected by the Imperial Copyright Act, 1911, may be kept out of circulation in the Island by a notice from the owner of the copyright or his agent to the Comptroller of Customs here, or to the Commissioners of Customs and Excise in England. Notice in either case to be publicly exposed in the local Customs House.

EDUCATION.

50. The total expenditure under this head was £22,958, a decrease of £475 on that for the previous year, due to smaller grants-in-aid to Public Elementary Schools.

51. Codrington College, founded in 1745, opened as a College in 1830 and affiliated to Durham University, has 20 scholars on the roll, as in the previous year. The Legislature votes four Island scholarships worth £40 each and tenable for two years at the College.

52. The Revd. A. H. Anstey, Principal of Codrington College, in the Michaelmas term of 1912, opened a training institute for elementary school teachers. This institute is not connected with the College but has been started privately by Mr. Anstey with the object of training elementary teachers for the Education Board. During 1913 twelve such teachers were in residence at a cost to the Board of £300.

53. The following table shows the statistics relating to first and second grade schools which receive legislative grants:—

Name.	Legislative Grant.	Pupils' Fees.	Number of Pupils on Rolls.
Boys (First Grade):—	£	£	
Harrison College	1,000	2,035	148
The Lodge School	500	726	63
Second Grade:—			
The Combermere School ..	450	968	175
The Coleridge School . ..	100	60	17
The Alleyne School	50	5	13
The Parry School	100	107	28
The Foundation School, Christ Church	100	110	52
Girls (First Grade):—			
Queen's College	400	795	98
Second Grade:—			
The Alexandria School ..	175	94	25

54. The upper forms of the two first grade boys' schools are examined annually by the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Schools Board, whilst the upper forms of the other schools are sent in for the Cambridge Junior and Senior Local Examinations.

55. There are six exhibitions from primary to first grade schools of £25, tenable for six years; and there are 35 open first grade exhibitions of £10 each and 60 open second grade exhibitions of £5 each, tenable for varying periods.

56. The following table gives the statistics for the primary schools:—

Denomination.	Number of Schools.	Number on Rolls.	Average Attendance.	Government Grant for Salaries.
				£
Church of England ..	127	20,544	12,260	10,435
Moravian	15	2,291	1,325	1,230
Wesleyan	15	2,855	1,705	1,462
Total, 1913	157	25,690	15,290	13,127
Total, 1912	161	26,276	15,124	13,019

57. The total Government grant for primary education is £14,200, the balance of which over and above the grant for salaries is expended on books, furniture, etc. There is also a parochial grant of £1,025 contributed in varying sums by the vestries of the island.

58. The four ragged schools show 326 scholars on the rolls, the same number as for the previous year, with an average attendance of 188. The legislative grant was £95.

59. Provision exists for an annual scholarship, called the Barbados Scholarship, opened during 1913, to girls as well as boys, of the value of £175 a year, tenable for four years during membership at one of the Universities of Europe or Canada or at any Agricultural or Technical College in Europe or America which may be approved by the Education Board.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

60. The Barbados General Hospital, situated in Bridgetown, is maintained by a legislative grant but is not, strictly speaking, a Government institution and is not under Government control. It is governed by a Court of 18 Directors, of whom 16—selected pursuant to statute—must either be Government officers, sitting ex-officio, or members of the Legislature, while the remaining two are life members.

61. The following table gives the principal statistics of the Hospital for the past two years:—

	Daily Average of patients.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Outpatients.
1913 ..	177	3,356	247	26,913
1912 ..	200	4,564	374	27,813

The Government grant for the year was £7,850.

62. The new buildings formally opened on April 28th, by Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, were not ready for occupation before the end of the year.

63. At the Lazaretto there were 12 admissions, 1 discharge and 11 deaths, leaving 120 inmates at the end of the year. Compulsory segregation is not in force in the Colony.

64. At the Lunatic Asylum the daily average number of patients remained practically the same as in 1912, viz., 399. The admissions numbered 132, the discharges 39 and the deaths 76.

65. The revenue from the Asylum Farm was £654 and the expenditure thereon £302, which gives a profit of £352.

66. At Glendairy Prison the daily average number of prisoners fell from 227 in 1912 to 216 in 1913, and the number of persons committed to penal imprisonment from 2,062 to 1,873.

67. The number at the Government Industrial School for boys fell from 161 at the end of 1912 to 156 at the end of 1913, with a daily average of 161.

68. The number at the Government Industrial School for girls rose from 28 at the end of 1912 to 42 at the end of 1913, with a daily average of 35.

69. The daily work table for both boys and girls gives 6 hours to agricultural and other manual labour and 2½ hours to school.

70. The expenditure on the Boys' School, including cultivation of the estate, amounted to £3,012, on the Girls' School to £755. The receipts from the estates cultivated amounted to £1,126. The nett cost of these institutions amounted, therefore, to £2,641. The cost of maintenance per boy was £6 4*s*. 8*d*., and per girl £9 2*s*. 10½*d*. The size of the latter figure was due to the cost of a necessary change in the material for uniform.

71. The following table shows the transactions of the Savings Bank for the past two financial years:—

	March 31st, 1914.	March 31st, 1913.
Number of Depositors	20,881	20,752
	£	£
Amount to credit of depositors ..	425,549	435,332
Amount of invested funds (actual)	461,035	490,154

The deposits during 1913-14 amounted to £209,339 and the withdrawals to £231,518. The interest paid on deposits is three per cent.

72. The following table gives the particulars of friendly societies established to relieve members and their families in times of sickness and death:—

	1913.	1912.
Number of societies	280	278
„ „ members	42,850	46,668
„ „ dependents	110,458	126,157

In considering the above numbers it must be remembered that individuals may belong to more than one society.

73. In spite of decreases, probably due to the reduction in prosperity caused by a short crop, the Savings Bank and friendly societies are good evidence of the prevalence of thrift.

POST OFFICE.

74. The following table gives the external postal statistics for the past two years:—

Inwards.	1913.	1912.
Mails	1,638	1,662
Bags, etc..	4,424	4,228
Letters, etc.	1,035,976	1,022,595
Parcels	21,188	19,204
Outwards.		
Mails	1,755	1,714
Bags, etc..	2,979	2,795
Letters, etc.	994,829	977,108
Parcels	5,628	5,311

The increase in inward parcels is chiefly due to an increase of 1,508 from the United States.

75. The estimated number of internal letters, &c., dealt with was 958,499, as compared with 860,151 in 1912.

76. The following table shows the remittances through the Post Office:—

Issued.	1913.	1912.
Money Orders	10,513	11,953
British Postal Orders	6,555	6,021
Paid.		
Money Orders	101,465	90,049
British Postal Orders	5,407	5,436

77. The following table gives the principal places of destination and origin of Money Orders for the past two years:—

Destination of Orders issued.	1913.	1912.
	£	£
Great Britain	3,689	4,684
United States	2,670	3,045
Place of Origin of Orders paid.		
Great Britain	2,088	1,413
Canada	6,071	5,093
United States	19,507	17,128
Panama Canal Zone	63,816	56,042

78. The following table gives the revenue and expenditure of the Post Office for the past two years:—

	1913.	1912.
	£	£
Revenue	9,231	10,335
Expenditure	7,440	7,693
Net Revenue	1,791	2,642

The reduction in revenue is due to the falling off from the abnormal sale to dealers of postage stamps of the new King George V design in 1912.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

79. The comparison with the previous year is:—

	1913.	1912.
Summary convictions ..	11,963	11,592
Convictions in Superior Courts	65	60

80. The percentage of convictions to population (estimated for 1913 as 173,440) has risen as follows:—

1911	6·49
1912	6·76
1913	6·93

81. The number of convictions for prædial larceny fell from 1,055 in 1912 to 860 in 1913.

82. The number of cane fires increased from 123 in 1912 to 155 in 1913. Steps were taken at the beginning of 1914 for the appointment of a Commission to report on this serious evil.

VITAL STATISTICS.

83. The population of the Colony on December 31st, 1913, was estimated to be:—72,066 males, 101,293 females; total 173,359; an estimated increase of 1,156 on the total for December 31st, 1912. These figures are based on those of the census of 1911, with corrections for births, burials, immigration and emigration.

84. The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages for the past two years:—

	1913.	1912.	Decrease.
Births..	5,511	6,338	827
Birth rate per 1,000 ..	31·9	36·8	4·9
Burials	3,674	7,066	3,392
Death rate per 1,000	21·3	41·0	19·8
Marriages	591	702	111

85. Illegitimate births numbered 3,359, or 60·5 per cent. of total births.

86. The burials of children under a year old numbered 1,173, giving a rate of 213 per 1,000 births. This shows a decrease of 1,469 such burials and 203 in the rate per 1,000 on the figures for 1912. This satisfactory reduction is to be explained by the abnormal rate caused by the distress of 1912.

METEOROLOGY.

87. The following is the record of barometric pressure at the Government Meteorological Station, corrected for temperature and gravity and reduced to sea level.

	1913. Inches.	Average previous ten years. Inches.
Mean pressure, 9 a.m. .	29·918	29·950
Mean pressure, 3 p.m. ..	29·854	29·884

This comparison is reduced in value by the fact that barometric pressure was not corrected for gravity until 1911.

The comparison of highest and lowest pressures recorded is:—

	1913. Inches.	Previous ten years. Inches.
Highest ..	30·043, Feb. 27th.	30·088, Feb. 16th, 1908.
Lowest ..	29·721, Nov. 24th.	29·712, Oct. 17th, 1912.

88. The following is the temperature record :—

	1913. Degrees Fahr.	Previous ten years. Degrees Fahr.
Mean maximum ..	83·2	84·1
Mean minimum ..	74·9	75·5
Mean temperature ..	79·1	79·8
Greatest monthly range	21·9	23·1
Least monthly range ..	16·5	16·5
Mean monthly range ..	18·9	19·2

The comparison of extremes is :—

	1913. Degrees Fahr.	Previous ten years. Degrees Fahr.
Maximum extreme ..	88·3, May 17th.	90·1, April 17th, 1905, and Sept. 28th, 1912.
Minimum extreme ..	63·0, Jan. 26th.	61·0, Feb. 20th, 1911.

89. The following is the record of relative humidity :—

	1913. Per cent.	Average for ten previous years. Per cent.
Mean, 9 a.m. ..	69·3	69·6
Mean, 3 p.m. ..	66·4	66·6

90. The following is the record of wind velocity :—

	1913. Miles per hour.	Average for previous ten years. Miles per hour.
Mean velocity ..	12·4	11·3

The maximum and minimum recorded were :—

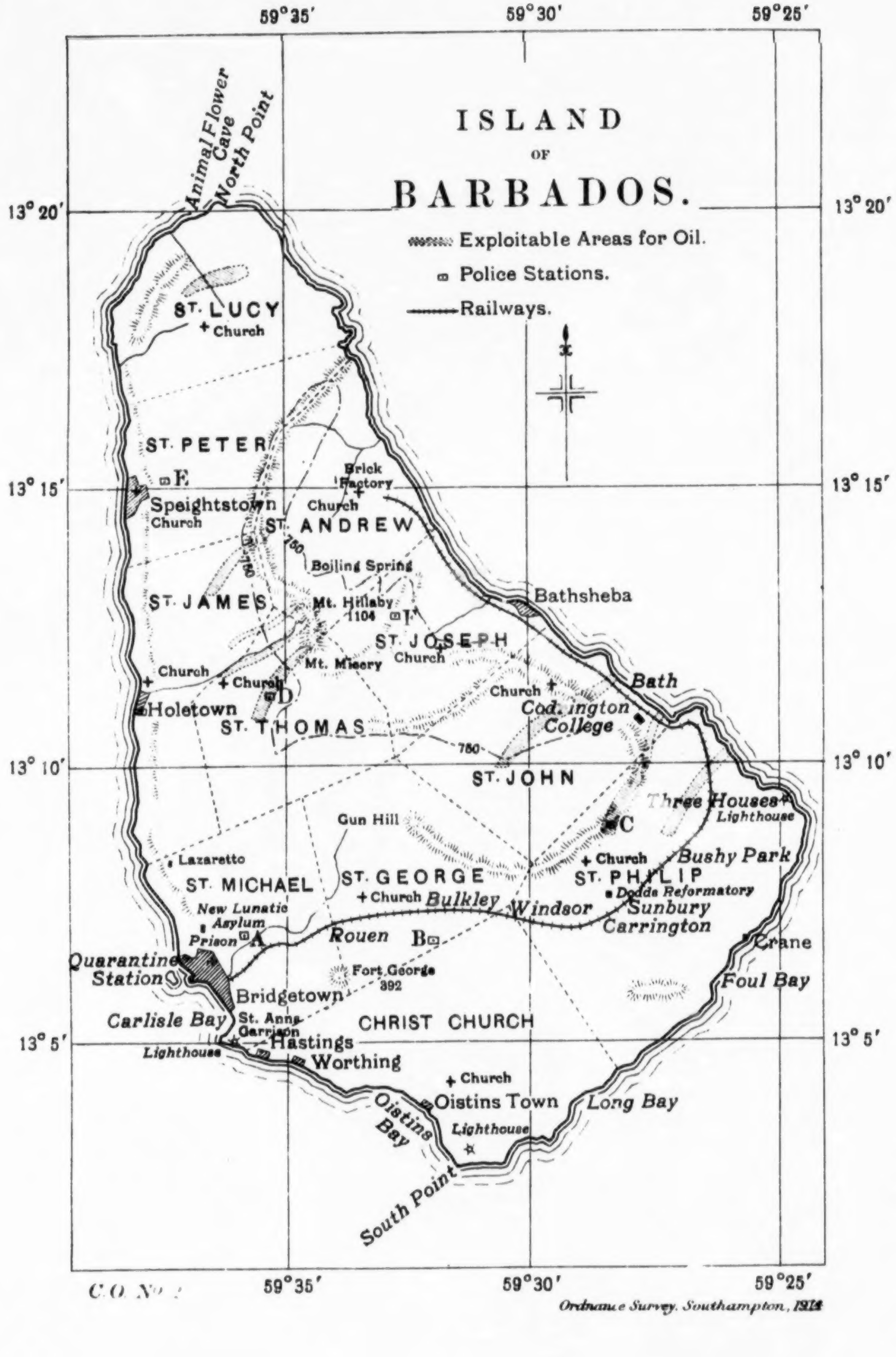
	1913. Miles per hour.	Previous ten years. Miles per hour.
Maximum velocity ..	23·1, Jan. 7th.	26·8, Feb. 7, 1909.
Minimum velocity ..	3·5, Oct. 22nd.	1·1, July 30th, 1909.

91. The following is the record of rainfall at the Government Meteorological Station :—

	1913. Inches.	Average for previous ten years. Inches.
Total registered ..	46·18	44·96
Days on which rain fell	205	160

The greatest fall in 1913 was 3·17 inches on July 13th.

The average rainfall from 138 stations was 56·84 inches. The average rainfall from 178 stations for the previous years was 56·33 inches.


ISLAND
OF
BARBADOS.
Exploitable Areas for Oil.
Police Stations.
Railways.
59°35'
59°30'
59°25'
13°20'
13°15'
13°10'
13°5'
Animal Flower Cave
North Point
ST. LUCY
Church
ST. PETER
E
Brick Factory
Church
Speightstown
Church
ST. ANDREW
750
Boiling Spring
ST. JAMES
Mt. Hillaby
1104
F
ST. JOSEPH
Church
Mt. Misery
Church
Church
D
Holetown
ST. THOMAS
Bathsheba
Bath
Church
Codrington College
750
ST. JOHN
Three Houses
Lighthouse
C
Gun Hill
Bushy Park
Lazaretto
Church
ST. MICHAEL
ST. GEORGE
ST. PHILIP
Church
Dodds Reformatory
Bulkley
Windsor
Sunbury
Carrington
New Lunatic Asylum
Prison
A
Rouen
B
Crane
Quarantine Station
Fort George
392
Foul Bay
Bridgetown
Carlisle Bay
St. Anns Garrison
CHRIST CHURCH
Hastings
Lighthouse
Worthing
Church
Oistins Town
Long Bay
Oistins Bay
Lighthouse
South Point

C.O. No 2

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1914

GENERAL REMARKS.

92. As mentioned in last year's report, Mr. E. H. Cunningham-Craig reported in March, 1913, on the oil-bearing prospects of Barbados. His conclusion was "that a prosperous, if not very large, local industry in oil producing and refining can be established in this Colony." The steps for establishing such an industry have since been under consideration by the Legislature.

93. The increase in tourists visiting the island is shown in paragraph 31 above. The increase in remittances and money brought back from Panama is shown in paragraphs 33 and 77; in the transit export trade in paragraph 27. The coaling business showed a decline in the previous year, but still gave a marked advance on the year prior to 1912. The number of visitors arriving to stay in the island appears to have been maintained.

94. Barbados depends primarily on agriculture—sugar and cotton—for her prosperity. The sugar crop of 1913 was 13,488 tons less than that for 1912, and owing to a fall in price showed a decrease in value exported of £229,007. The increase in the cotton crop was more than set off by a drop in price, which caused a fall of £4,207 in value exported; and yet the revenue was only £6,759 less than that for the previous year.

95. This slight fall, in no way commensurate with the fall in the staple industry, appears to show the stable nature of the Colony's prosperity. It points to the value of the various subsidiary channels of revenue alluded to in paragraph 93 and other less easily gauged sources. It proves a satisfactory condition, on which the island is to be congratulated.

J. A. Burdon,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados,
7th November, 1914.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
796	Bermuda	1912
797	Ceylon	,,
798	Gibraltar	1913
799	St. Helena	,,
800	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
801	Seychelles	,,
802	Ceylon	,,
803	Bermuda	,,
804	Weihaiwei	,,
805	Gambia	,,
806	Gold Coast	,,
807	Northern Territories, Gold Coast	,,
808	Sierra Leone	,,
809	Bahamas	1913–1914
810	Cayman Islands (Jamaica)	1912–1913
811	Fiji	1913
812	Ashanti	,,
813	Basutoland	1913–1914
814	Hong Kong	1913
815	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1913-1914
816	Imperial Institute	1913
817	Falkland Islands	,,
818	Malta	1913–1914
819	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
820	Jamaica	,,
821	Northern Nigeria	1913
822	Grenada	,,
823	Zanzibar	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
78	Weihaiwei	Census, 1911.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 871.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1914–15.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 824.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

January, 1916.

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No. 871.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1913–14 see No. 824.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Barbados,
14th October, 1915.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Blue Book of this Colony for the year 1914–15, with the report thereon by Major J. A. Burdon, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, etc.
L. PROBYN,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
A. Bonar Law, P.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

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REPORT ON THE BARBADOS BLUE BOOK FOR 1914-15.

FINANCIAL.

General.

1. In the year 1914–15:—

	£
The Revenue was	223,091
The Expenditure was	236,796
Deficit on year's transactions	£13,705

The balance to the credit of the general revenue, which stood at £49,316 at the close of the previous financial year, was thus reduced to £35,611 on March 31st, 1915.

2. The revenue given above includes a loan of £9,000 raised to meet expenditure incurred in 1912–13 for the purchase of military property; and also a loan of £20,000 raised for the purpose of a war contribution to the Imperial Government. If these items be excluded as abnormal, and if the £20,000 war gift be also omitted on the expenditure side for the same reason, the *normal* figures for 1914–15 will be:—

	£
Revenue	194,091
Expenditure	216,796
Deficit on normal (but including defence) transactions	£22,705

3. The corresponding revenue and expenditure for the year 1913–14 were £214,865 and £222,177, respectively.

Revenue.

4. The normal revenue was £20,774 less than that for the previous year. During the four months of peace—viz., from April to July—the revenue was only £85 short of the proportionate estimate for that period. It was actually £821 in excess of the revenue for the similar period of the preceding year. The falling off, therefore, occurred entirely during the eight months of war and is mainly attributable to the war. There were, however, subsidiary causes which must not be overlooked. Firstly, the low prices obtained for the bulk of the 1914 sugar crop reduced the spending power of planters and merchants. Secondly, the cotton crop fell in quantity by nearly one half. Thirdly, a severe drought occurred during the first three quarters of the year.

It is true that this drought increased the receipts derived from import duties on foodstuffs; but this was probably balanced by reduced imports on articles of secondary necessity; and any such gain must have been more than counterbalanced by the check to the employment of labour, by reduction in the spending power of the peasants, and by the natural curtailment of expenditure due to anticipation of a short crop for 1915. In addition to the foregoing, there were two other untoward circumstances. Owing to the gradual closing down of work on the Panama Canal, there was a considerable reduction in the money remitted thence; and, owing to financial conditions in Brazil, there has been a great falling off in visitors, residential and otherwise, from that country. To the above category of woes, serious, but not by themselves sufficient to cause the shrinkage of revenue recorded, the war added :—A decrease in remittances from countries other than the Canal Zone; a considerable decrease in volume of shipping; a serious decrease in the coaling trade; a cessation of the tourist trade; a considerable rise in price of almost all imported goods, especially foodstuffs and clothing; and a natural tendency to individual retrenchment and economy. The only offset to all this was a rise in the price of sugar. But, as very little of the 1914 crop remained unsold at the beginning of the war, this advantage affected a few individuals and the result on the revenue was inconsiderable and may be neglected.

In view of the long catalogue of adverse circumstances it is remarkable that Barbados should have suffered a shrinkage of revenue of only ten per cent.

5. Two steps towards additional taxation were taken just before the end of the financial year.

(*a*) An export duty was on March 9th placed on sugar and molasses at the following rates :—

		s.	*d.*
Crystal sugar	per ton	2	6
Muscovado sugar	„ „	1	8
Molasses	per 100 gals.	0	10

This duty brought in £472 during the 23 days of its operation.

(*b*) From March 4th the excise duty on rum was increased from 3*s.* to 4*s.* per gallon; and the Customs duty on alcoholic liquors and tobacco was raised by 20 per cent.

This increase brought in £732 in excise and £316 in import duties in the four weeks of its operation. These figures must not be taken as an accurate guide to the amount to be anticipated as the regular result of these increased duties. Both these Acts are to continue in force till March 31st, 1916.

6. Only one head of revenue has shown any substantial increase, viz. that of the Water Works Department, by £701. Of this £100 is due to an increase of clients owing to the extension of the service to the higher levels. The remainder is due to increased consumption by meter, owing to the drought.

7. The principal decreases occurred under the following heads:—

	£
Customs	14,267
Port and Harbour dues	350
Excise	1,736
Licences	459
Fees and fines	621
Post Office	1,468
Reimbursements-in-aid	1,741
Interest	254
Special Receipts (if the £20,000 loan be deducted)	1,166

8. The causes of decrease were:—

Customs.—Principally the war.

Port and Harbour Dues.—Principally the war; secondarily, reduction in the output of syrup and the consequent decrease in number of vessels loading in the Careenage.

Excise, Licences, Fees, and Fines.—General diminution in spending power consequent on general conditions and increase in cost of living.

Post Office.—Decrease in sale of stamps owing to falling off in correspondence, partly general and due to the war, but mainly with Panama, due to the reduction of Barbadian labour on the Canal.

Reimbursements-in-Aid.—Abnormal increase by loan of £1,500 in the previous year.

Interest.—Reduction of Treasury balance on deposit at interest.

Special Receipts.—Shrinkage by £880 in deposits by passengers under the Quarantine Act, which is balanced by a decrease on the expenditure side under refunds to passengers.

Expenditure.

9. The expenditure for 1914–15 exceeded that for the previous year by £14,619. If the gift of £20,000 to the Imperial Government be excluded this excess is converted into a decrease of £5,381. And if the total expenditure directly due to the war, set out in paragraph 13, be further deducted, the expenditure for 1914–15 will be found to have been reduced below that for the previous year by £9,177.

10. The principal heads under which increases occurred were:—

	Increase. £
The Governor (at disposal of, for service of Colony)	1,414
Colonial Secretary	163
Police	910
Pensions..	1,014
MiscellaneousServices	17,350
War Expenditure	1,543

The principal decreases were :—

	£
Customs	4,377
Education	949
Water Works Department	1,041
Debt Charges	557
Public Works (Extraordinary)	851

11. The chief causes of the increases were :—

The Governor.—At the commencement of the war the money required for war expenditure was voted, to the amount of £1,600, as miscellaneous at the disposal of the Governor for the service of the Colony.

Police.—An amendment of the system of good conduct badges, entailing increase of this head by £348; the increased cost of clothing and forage due to the war, £244; and purchase of surplus stock, £194, recoverable on issue.

Pensions.—Automatic increase as public officers come under Part 2 of the Pension Act.

Miscellaneous Services.—The principal items of increase were :—

	£
Increase in amount of telegrams (due to war)	85
Installation and running of wharf lighting	200
Cost of exchange	48
Defensive measure for denial of supplies to enemy	543
Grants to families of two deceased police sergeants	227
Grant to provision contractor to compensate for war rise in prices	51
Donation to London School of Tropical Medicine	100
War gift to the Imperial Government	20,000

To set against the above there are items of extraordinary expenditure in 1913–14 which did not recur; and a reduction of £851 in refunds to passengers under the Quarantine Act. This is the corollary of the shrinkage in special receipts mentioned in paragraph 8.

12. The chief causes of the decreases were :—

Customs.—Decrease in refunds for drawbacks, consequent on decreased imports.

Education.—Decreased expenditure on repairs to schools.

Charges of Debt.—The instalment of £1,000 for the Public Works Loan sinking fund was withheld in accordance with the Act. Against this must be set increase of interest due to increased borrowing.

Public Works Extraordinary.—Expenditure on purchase of workshop in 1913–14, not recurring.

13. The total expenditure directly due to the war has been :—

	£
Gift to the Imperial Government	20,000
Money placed at the disposal of the Governor	1,600
War expenditure voted under scheduled heads	1,543
Additional defensive measure for denial of supplies to enemy	543
Volunteers, uniform for increased establishment	110
	£23,796

The principal objects to which the second and third items above were devoted were :—Temporary increase of police force by employment of island constables; pay and rations to volunteers when on guard and piquet; prisoners of war; censorship; erection of wireless station; and pay of volunteer wireless operators.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

14. The excess of assets over liabilities, which at the close of the previous financial year stood at £44,121, fell to £29,841 on March 31st, 1915.

PUBLIC DEBT.

15. The public debt has been increased during the year under report, from £436,900 to £447,900, the causes of increase being a loan of £9,000 for the purchase of the Savannah and military buildings and one of £2,000 for the extension of the water works to the higher levels of the island. To the amount above given, £447,900, will be added the £20,000 borrowed temporarily from the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank for the War gift to the mother country, as soon as the necessary legislative provision for this step has been effected.

The sinking fund increased during the year from £113,591 to £122,264.

PAROCHIAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

16. The comparison of the total revenue and expenditure of the eleven parishes of the island for this and the previous financial year discloses a decrease of £327 in revenue and a decrease of £10 in expenditure; the revenue and expenditure in 1913–14 amounting respectively to £67,737 and £66,097.

The amount expended on poor relief was £22,305. The increase of £1,115 over the figure for the previous financial year was necessitated by the drought.

TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRIES.

TRADE.

17. In 1914 the value of imports amounted to £1,300,073 as compared with £1,353,059 in 1913. The value of exports amounted to £915,099, the value of those in 1913 being £856,618.

The decrease in imports is due to the War and to the general conditions set forth in paragraph 4. The increase in exports is due to the improvement of the 1914 crop over the abnormally low crop of 1913 and also to the fact that considerable stocks of the 1913 crop were held over owing to low prices and not exported until 1914.

IMPORTS.

18. The following comparative table for the past two years show the countries from which imports chiefly came:—

	1914	1913
	£	£
United Kingdom	495,096	518,611
Canada..	174,725	192,495
Newfoundland	32,026	37,055
British West Indies and British Guiana	118,827	113,013
India	35,076	29,247
Foreign Countries—		
United States..	346,185	381,259
Argentine Republic	25,366	23,444
Foreign West Indies and Guiana..	21,187	11,629
France..	3,037	3,836
Germany	3,806	9,173
Holland	29,743	13,261

Of the increase by £9,558 from foreign West Indies and Guiana £8,972 is caused by increase of imports from the Dutch West Indies. This is due to increased imports thence of raw manures. The large increase in the import of raw manures was probably due to anticipated shortage in potassic manures caused by the embargo on potassic salts.

Of the increase of imports from Holland, £7,513 is due to import of chemical manure thence, on the closing of other sources of supply.

19. The following table gives the percentage of imports from the principal countries of origin for the past two years:—

	1914. Per cent.	1913. Per cent.
United Kingdom	38	38
Canada	13	14
United States	26	28

20. The net loss to the revenue attributable to the operation of the preferential tariff was £360 during 1914. The burden on the consumer, due to increased duties on articles from foreign sources, is estimated to have been inappreciable as the loss to the revenue. The benefit accruing from the preference system to the sugar industry, the staple and almost sole industry of the Colony, is believed to be of distinct and substantial value.

21. The following table gives the value of the principal imports from Canada for the past two years:—

(a) *Articles showing an increase:*

	1914	1913
	£	£
Motor cars and parts..	1,889	410
Oilmeal and oilcake	2,866	270
Fish, dried, salted and smoked	19,638	14,994
Flour of wheat and rye	48,110	42,112
Oats	19,708	14,835
Hay	2,427	965
Pork, salted	1,700	806

(b) *Articles showing a decrease:*

	1914	1913
	£	£
Cheese	2,078	2,395
Pickled fish (all kinds)	2,353	2,603
Sulphate of ammonia	30,269	46,752
Manures, unenumerated	11	1,967
Wood and timber	22,039	38,126
Shingles	11,615	14,473

The decrease in import of sulphate of ammonia is apparently attributable to the War; in unenumerated manures, wood and timber, and shingles to a decrease of total imports under these heads.

EXPORTS.

22. The following table gives a comparison of the value of exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony with the value of exports the produce and manufacture of British and foreign countries.

	1914.	1913.
	£	£
Produce, &c., of the Colony..	661,065	527,606
Produce, &c., of other Countries	254,034	329,012

23. The following table gives a comparison of the value of principal exports the produce and manufacture of the Colony with that for the previous year :—

	1914.	1913
	£	£
Bread and Crackers	6,600	7,018
Cotton-seed meal	1,625	2,293
Cotton, raw	13,473	23,460
Preserved tamarinds..	2,148	770
Hides and Skins	6,334	4,922
Oleomargarine..	2,251	3,310
Sugar, crystals	158,372	50,967
„ muscovado	94,688	39,704
Molasses, choice	55,332	37,480
„ fancy	306,076	339,130
„ vacuum pan	1,158	—

24. The following table compares the molasses and sugar shipments in quantity as well as in value :—

	1914.	1913.
Molasses, choice—		
Gallons	1,897,108	946,880
Value .. .. £	55,332	37,480
Molasses, fancy—		
Gallons	9,182,280	8,139,120
Value .. .. £	306,076	339,130
Molasses, vacuum pan—		
Gallons	138,957	—
Value .. .. £	1,158	—
Sugar, crystals—		
Tons	17,568	4,977
Value .. .. £	158,372	50,967
Sugar, muscovado—		
Tons	11,836	4,963
Value .. .. £	94,688	39,704

25. The following table gives the comparison of the average prices for the two years :—

	1914.			1913.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Molasses, choice—per gallon	0	0	7	0	0	9½
„ fancy „	0	0	8	0	0	10
„ vacuum pan „	0	0	2		—	
Sugar, crystals, dark—per ton	9	0	0	10	0	0
„ „ white „	12	2	8		—	
„ „ yellow „	11	0	0	12	0	0
„ muscovado „	8	0	0	8	0	0

It will be seen that the Colony suffered from a fall in the price of every sugar product except muscovado sugar.

26. The following table gives the comparison in quantity and value for cotton exported during the two years:—

		1914.	1913.
Cotton, raw	lbs.	220,981	433,099
Value	£	13,473	23,460
Cotton-seed meal	lbs.	970,976	1,310,010
Value	£	1,625	2,293

The average price of raw cotton rose from 1*s.* 1·0*d.* in 1913 to 1*s.* 2·6*d.* in 1914, but this rise was insufficient to compensate for a decrease by nearly one-half in the quantity exported.

27. The following table gives the destination of the principal products exported for the past two years:—

	1914.	1913.
	£	£
United Kingdom	42,111	55,170
Canada	466,831	312,053
Newfoundland	37,436	45,964
United States	74,481	69,200

28. The destination of the bulk of the sugar has been:—

	1914.	1913.
	£	£
United Kingdom	20,867	21,087
Canada	202,168	53,212
British West Indies	6,200	6,152
Holland	4,720	3,968
United States	12,080	Nil

And of the molasses:—

	1914.	1913.
	£	£
United Kingdom	5,457	7,574
Canada	262,320	258,568
Newfoundland	36,772	45,830
United States	56,760	62,643

29. The transit export trade shows a decrease of £74,978 below that for 1913.

SHIPPING.

30. The number of steamers entered at the port of Bridgetown in 1914 was 646, as compared with 709 in 1913. Their tonnage was 1,610,020, as compared with 1,753,356 in 1913. The number of sailing vessels entered was 701, as compared with 667 in the preceding year, their tonnage being 157,222, as compared with 141,141.

31. Of the ships entered in 1914, 986 were British, with tonnage amounting to 1,367,730, as compared with 1,063, with tonnage amounting to 1,489,371, in 1913. The foreign ships entered amounted to 361 in 1914, with tonnage of 399,512, as compared with 313, with tonnage of 405,126, in 1913.

32. In 1913 the number of steamers coaled was 265 and the amount of coal taken was 73,784 tons. In 1914 only 198 steamers were coaled, 48,598 tons of coal being taken.

33. In 1914 there were 5 tourist ships, which brought 1,686 tourists for a day's visit to the island. The corresponding figures for 1913 were 5 ships and 4,355 tourists.

34. The number of passengers arriving in this island, exclusive of those in transit, was 11,898 in 1914 as compared with 14,435 in 1913.

35. The number of natives of Barbados returning from Panama, with the money declared as brought with them, was 1,759, with £16,449, in 1914, as compared with 1,910, with £19,342, in 1913.

AGRICULTURE.

36. The export of sugar has been set out under its various headings in paragraph 24. The following table gives a comprehensive comparison, in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto), of the exports for the past five years:—

	Tons.
1910	52,200
1911	47,610
1912	44,817
1913	31,329
1914	53,568

37. The increase by 22,239 tons in 1914 represents the increase in the amount exported during the year and not the increase in the crop itself. As was stated in paragraph 35 of the Report for 1913–14, considerable stocks of the 1913 crop were held over, owing to low prices, beyond the close of 1913. Such stocks therefore went to swell to some extent the export returns for 1914. But the actual crop of 1913 was a very short one, owing to the exceptionally low rainfall of 1912, 41·49 inches, the lowest on record for 65 years; whereas the rainfall for 1913, 56·84 inches, raised the 1914 crop to a more nearly average figure.

38. The growth of the crop to be reaped in 1915 was injured in its early stages by the serious drought which existed to the end of August, 1914. Prospects improved considerably owing to seasonable rains in September; October and November were comparatively dry; December and January gave good rains, but the value of these was largely negatived by unseasonable rains at the reaping season. The 1915 crop thus suffered seriously from generally adverse weather conditions.

39. The seedling cane B 6450, to the drought-resisting qualities of which attention was drawn in the reports for 1912–13 and 1913–14, gives increasingly satisfactory results compared with other varieties. The Barbados Department of Agriculture reports that for the 1914 crop the average yield of this variety exceeded that of the White Transparent, the standard cane, by 6·5 tons of canes, or well over half a ton of dark crystal sugar, per acre. The areas planted with B 6450 continue to increase, but the evidence afforded by the 1914 crop convinces the Superintendent of Agriculture that the monetary gain to the planters had the whole 30,000 acres reaped been under this variety would have been not less than £160,000.

40. Certain newer seedlings give even better promise than B 6450, notably B(a) 6032, which has now been distributed to estates for field trials.

41. The Blue Book and the comparative table in paragraph 26 above show the cotton exported during the calendar year. But the reaping and shipping season for a cotton crop extends from October to the following September. The following table gives the comparison by crops and not by calendar years :—

	Crop of 1913–14.	Crop of 1912–13.
Acres	2,985	3,970
Quantity, lbs.	285,697	424,392
Value £	16,820	23,222

42. The continued reduction of area under cotton is due, as has been pointed out in the reports for the last two years, to the discouragement caused to planters by the susceptibility of cotton to disease and insect pests. The efforts of the local Department of Agriculture to obtain, by selection and hybridisation, varieties capable of resisting insect pests and fungoid diseases and of giving a yield satisfactory in both quantity and quality are being continued with some success. But it is very probable that the present high price of sugar will cause a still further reduction of the area under cotton.

43. The rise in freight rates due to the war has caused the discontinuance of the shipments of bananas, mangoes, potatoes and yams to England; and the efforts to establish a trade with the United Kingdom in these commodities have perforce been suspended.

44. The experimental export of melons to New York has been brought to an end, owing to the difficulty of obtaining shipping facilities during the season of remunerative prices.

INDUSTRIES.

45. There was an increase of 44,049 gallons in the quantity of rum manufactured.

46. The receipts of the Barbados Light Railway Company have risen again to the figure for 1912-13 in spite of the fact that the payment of the Government subsidy was suspended for two months and nineteen days, involving a reduction of £439, pending completion of certain necessary repairs.

The receipts in 1913-14 were £8,890; in 1912-13 they were £7,984.

LEGISLATION.

47. During the year 28 Acts were passed by the Legislature. Of these the more important are:—

No. 10. An Act to authorise the prohibition of the exportation of foodstuffs from this island.

No. 11. An Act to amend the Trade Act, 1910, and the Exportation of Foodstuffs Act, 1914.

No. 12. An Act to authorise the Governor-in-Executive Committee to fix maximum prices for certain commodities.

No. 15. An Act to amend the Regulation of Prices Act, 1914.

These Acts were passed in consequence of the situation created by the existence of the state of war between certain nations in Europe, which brought about unsettled conditions in the markets of the world.

No. 21. An Act to prohibit trading with the enemy.

This Act is a transcript of the Imperial Act, with necessary alterations of names of officers and other modifications to suit local conditions.

EDUCATION.

48. The total expenditure under this head was £22,009, a decrease by £949 on that for the previous year, due principally to less expenditure on repairs.

49. Codrington college, founded in 1745, opened as a college in 1830 and affiliated to Durham University, had 24 scholars on the roll at the close of 1914, as compared with 20 at the close of the previous year. The Legislature votes four island scholarships worth £40 each and tenable for two years at the College.

50. The training institute for elementary school teachers, started privately by the Rev. A. H. Anstey, Principal of Codrington College, and assisted by a grant of £300 from the Education Board, had twelve teachers under training throughout 1914. Ten teachers had completed the course by the end of the year and are now employed by the Board, two as head teachers. The results of the experiment so far have been quite satisfactory.

51. The following table shows the statistics relating to the larger schools, which receive legislative grants:—

	No. of pupils on rolls.
Boys (First Grade)—	
Harrison College	151
The Lodge School	71
Boys (Second Grade)—	
The Combermere School	181
Girls (First Grade)—	
Queen's College	93

52. The number of primary schools was 153, with 25,162 children on the rolls and an average attendance of 14,409.

53. The total Government grant for primary education is £14,200, the balance of which over and above the grant for salaries is expended on books, furniture, etc. There is also a parochial grant of £1,025 contributed in various sums by the vestries of the island.

54. The four ragged schools show 311 scholars on the rolls.

55. Provision exists for an annual scholarship, called the Barbados scholarship, open to both girls and boys, of the value of £175 a year, tenable for four years during membership at one of the Universities of Europe or Canada or at any agricultural or technical college in Europe or America which may be approved by the Education Board.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

56. The Barbados General Hospital, situated in Bridgetown, is maintained by a legislative grant, but is not, strictly speaking, a Government institution and is not under Government control. It is governed by a Court of eighteen Directors, of whom sixteen—selected pursuant to statute—must be either Government officers, sitting ex-officio, or members of the Legislature, while the remaining two are life members.

57. The following table gives the principal statistics of the Hospital for the past two years:—

	Daily Average of patients.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Outpatients.
1914 ..	147	2,980	271	27,738
1913 ..	177	3,356	247	26,913

The Government grant for the year was £7,850.

58. The new buildings formally opened on April 28th, 1913, by Her Highness Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig-Holstein, were taken into use early in 1914.

59. At the Lazaretto there were 14 admissions, 2 discharges, and 11 deaths, leaving 121 inmates at the end of the year. An Act providing for the compulsory segregation of any supposed leper found in a public place, if proved to be such, with certain concessions for isolation in private under regulation, was passed by the Legislature in December, 1914.

60. At the lunatic asylum the daily average number of patients increased from 399 in 1913 to 424 in 1914. The admissions numbered 114, the discharges 51, and the deaths 91.

61. At Glendairy Prison the daily average number of prisoners rose from 216 in 1913 to 257 in 1914, and the number of persons committed to penal imprisonment from 1,873 to 2,192.

62. The number at the Government Industrial School for boys rose from 156 at the close of 1913 to 161 on December 31st, 1914, with a daily average of 159.

63. The number at the Government Industrial School for girls rose from 42 at the end of 1913 to 57 at the end of 1914, with a daily average of 47.

64. The expenditure on the Boys' School, including cultivation of the estates, amounted to £2,931, on the Girls' School to £772. The receipts from the estates cultivated amounted to £1,518. The nett cost of these institutions amounted, therefore, to £2,185, a decrease by £456 on the nett cost for 1913. The cost of maintenance per boy was £5 15*s*. 1*d*., and per girl £6 8*s*. 10½*d*.

65. The deposits in the Savings Bank during 1914-15 amounted to £193,646 and the withdrawals to £215,219. The interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

66. In spite of decreases, probably due to the reduction in prosperity resulting from the adverse circumstances detailed in paragraph 4, the Savings Bank and Friendly Societies are good evidence of the prevalence of thrift.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

67. The comparison with the previous year is:—

	1914.	1913.
Summary convictions ..	10,351	11,963
Convictions in superior courts	75	65

68. The following table shows the percentage of convictions to population (estimated for 1914 to be 176,397):—

1911	6·49
1912	6·76
1913	6·93
1914	5·91

69. The number of convictions for prædial larceny, which fell from 1,055 in 1912 to 860 in 1913, rose again to 1,039 in 1914.

70. The number of cane fires showed a serious increase during the year. There were 123 in 1912, 155 in 1913, and 270 in 1914. A Commission appointed to consider this serious evil reported thereon at the close of the year.

VITAL STATISTICS.

71. The population of the Colony on December 31st, 1914, was estimated to be:—74,476 males, 101,921 females; total 176,397; an estimated increase by 3,038 on the total for December 31st, 1913. These figures are based on those of the census of 1911, with corrections for births, burials, immigration, and emigration.

72. The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages for the past two years:—

	1914.	1913.
Births	6,549	5,511
Birth rate per 1,000	37·4	31·9
Burials	6,380	3,674
Death rate per 1,000	36·5	21·3
Marriages	582	591

73. Illegitimate births numbered 4,092, or 62·4 per cent. of total births.

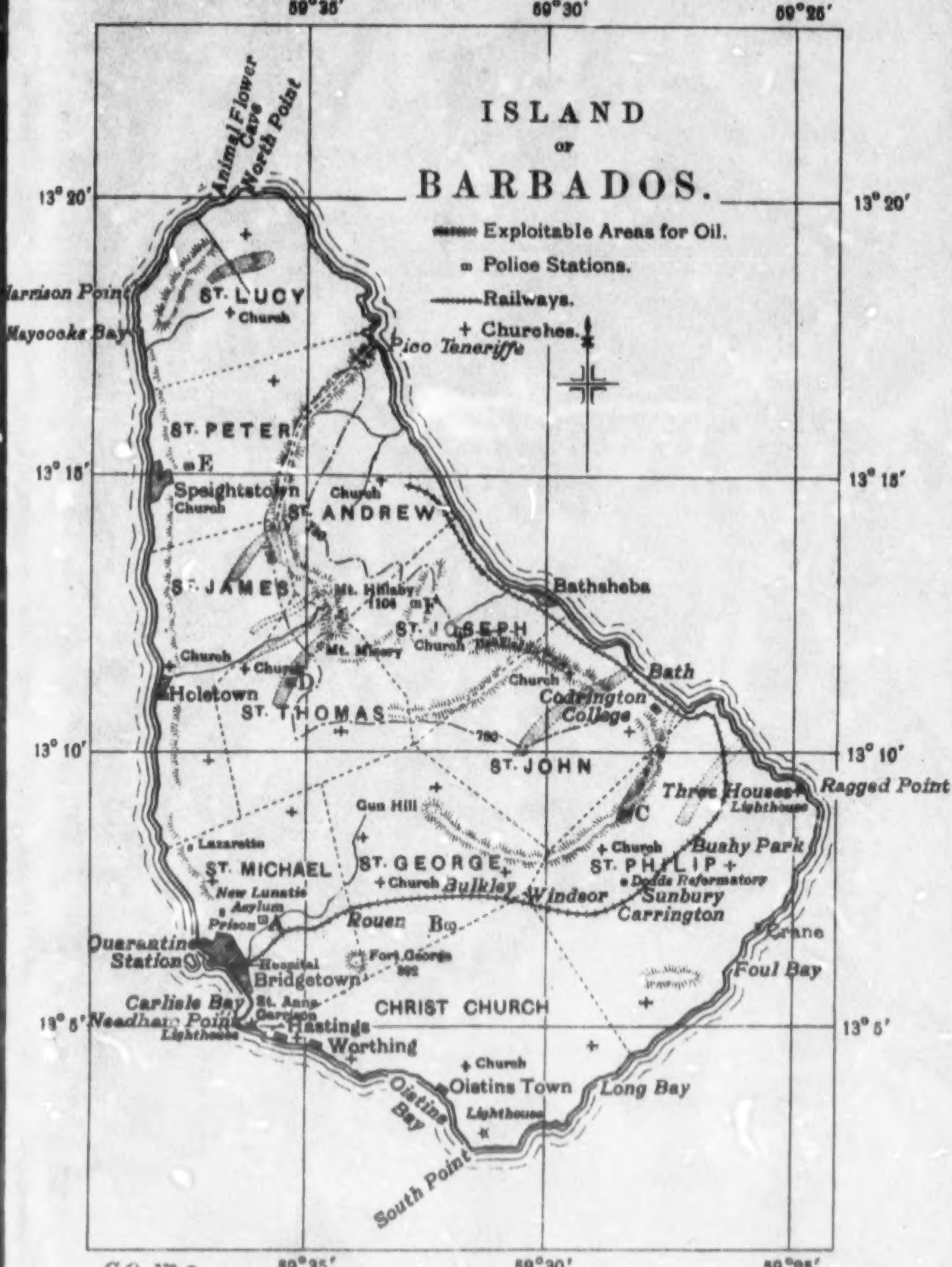
74. The burials of children under a year old numbered 2,641, giving a rate of 403 per 1,000 births, as against 213 per 1,000 in 1913 and 416 per 1,000 in 1912.

GENERAL REMARKS.

75. The consideration by the Legislature of steps for the establishment of a local industry in oil producing and refining has been temporarily suspended owing to the War.

76. The principal effects of the War felt by Barbados during 1914 were the rise in price in imported goods, a decrease in the volume of shipping, a serious decrease in the coaling trade, and a cessation of the tourist trade. There was no need to take legislative action to safeguard the commercial financial position. As there is no foreign colony in the island no alien difficulties arose.

77. Enemy ships did not attack the island. Whilst there were any at large the approved organization for defence was kept in force and sundry false alarms showed the local forces to be fully prepared for any attack. Money was voted by the Legislature for an additional defensive measure directed towards preventing an enemy ship from obtaining the particular commodity which would be most likely to tempt an attack. The measure taken has been examined by officers of His Majesty's ships and approved by them as efficient for the purpose aimed at and the most satisfactory that could have been adopted.


ISLAND
OF
BARBADOS.
Exploitable Areas for Oil.
Police Stations.
Railways.
+ Churches.
59°35′
59°30′
59°25′
13°20′
13°15′
13°10′
13°5′
Animal Flower Cave
North Point
Harrison Point
Maycocks Bay
ST. LUCY
Church
Pico Teneriffe
ST. PETER
F
Speightstown
Church
ST. ANDREW
Church
ST. JAMES
Mt. Hillaby
1104
F
ST. JOSEPH
Church
Mt. Misery
Church
Church
D
Holetown
Bathsheba
Bath
Church
Codrington College
ST. THOMAS
780
ST. JOHN
Three Houses
Lighthouse
Ragged Point
C
Gun Hill
Lazarette
Church
Bushy Park
ST. MICHAEL
ST. GEORGE
ST. PHILIP
Dodds Reformatory
Church
Bulkley
Windsor
Sunbury
Carrington
New Lunatic Asylum
Prison
A
Rouen
B
Quarantine Station
Hospital
Fort George
892
Bridgetown
Crane
Foul Bay
Carlisle Bay
St. Anns Garrison
CHRIST CHURCH
Needham Point
Lighthouse
Hastings
Worthing
Church
Oistins Town
Long Bay
Oistins Bay
Lighthouse
South Point

C.O. No. 2.

Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 1915.

78. But undoubtedly the most valuable addition to the defensive organization has been the erection by certain members of the Volunteer Force of a very efficient wireless station for military purposes, which has placed the Colony in permanent wireless communication with Trinidad, and has therefore relieved it from the dangerous position of sole reliance on the submarine cable for reporting an attack or appealing for assistance. The story of the installation is of sufficient interest to justify giving it at some length.

79. Prior to the outbreak of war a "wireless club" existed in Barbados, the youthful members of which learnt and practised by talking to each other on little home-made installations erected on bamboo poles or palm trees. Amongst the members were certain volunteers. On the outbreak of war these Volunteers offered to erect something for the service of the Colony if a little financial help could be given for the purchase of material. Ten pounds was subscribed privately by the Governor and the members of the Legislative Council; permission was given, and within five days of the declaration of war an "umbrella" installation, capable of calling up to 15 miles, was at work, operated night and day by an unpaid volunteer staff.

80. A week later a 10-inch induction coil was borrowed from the Hospital. This increased the transmitting range to 40 miles. At the beginning of September a generous gift of part-worn material by a steamer of the Booth Line (to which Company the gratitude of the Colony is due) increased the transmitting range to 60 miles. In the middle of September the utilization of power from the Electric Supply Corporation, together with certain home-made improvements to the apparatus, increased the range to 150 miles. In the middle of October the loan (on deposit) of a lattice mast by the Electric Supply Corporation (whose manager is a member of the Volunteer Force) enabled the "umbrella" installation to be converted into an "inverted L" aerial, and increased the transmitting range to about 220 miles. The island was thus placed in wireless touch with Trinidad and with any British warship which might happen to be within that radius. The greatest credit is due to the keen young Volunteers who achieved this success at a cost to the Colony of under £60, and who until October 1st gave their services night and day to the station without remuneration.

81. Success being now demonstrated, specific votes were obtained from the Legislature for the purchase of a proper transmitting apparatus, and the little "toy" plant evolved out of nothing in August became by the end of the year an efficient and thoroughly dependable two-kilowatt installation, maintained for defence purposes only. There existed obstacles to its conversion into a commercial station, but every facility compatible with military considerations was given to merchants and shipping agents for its use gratis.

J. A. BURDON,

Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
14th October, 1915.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
836	St. Lucia	1913–1914
837	Somaliland	"
838	Straits Settlements	1913
839	Cayman Islands	1913–1914
840	East Africa Protectorate	"
841	Leeward Islands	"
842	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
843	Zanzibar	1914
844	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
845	Weihaiwei	"
846	Seychelles	"
847	St. Helena	"
848	Fiji	"
849	Bahamas	1914–1915
850	Gibraltar	1914
851	Sierra Leone	"
852	Grenada	1914–1915
853	Bermuda	1914
854	Malta	1914–1915
855	Ceylon	1914
856	Hong Kong	"
857	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1914–1915
858	Basutoland	"
859	Gold Coast	1914
860	Jamaica	1914–1915
861	Gambia	1914
862	Straits Settlements	"
863	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
864	Ashanti	"
865	Cyprus	1914–1915
866	Swaziland	"
867	Somaliland	"
868	British Honduras	1914
869	British Solomon Islands	1914–1915
870	Tongan Islands Protectorate	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

No. 912.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1915–16.

(For Report for 1914–15 see No. 871.)

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
December, 1916.

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A sketch map will be found in the previous Report, No. 871: [Cd. 7622–62].

No. 912.

BARBADOS.

(For Report for 1914–15 see No. 871.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,
Barbados,
19th October, 1916.

SIR,

I have the honour to transmit herewith copies of the Barbados Blue Book for the year 1915–16, together with the report thereon, which has been prepared by Mr. T. E. Fell, the Colonial Secretary.

I have, etc.,
L. PROBYN,
Governor.

The Right Honourable
A. Bonar Law, P.C., M.P.,
etc., etc., etc.

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REPORT ON THE BARBADOS BLUE BOOK FOR 1915-16.

FINANCIAL.

General.

1. In the year 1915–16 :—

	£
The Revenue amounted to ..	212,483
The Expenditure amounted to ..	227,008
Deficit on the year's transaction	£14,525

The balance, £35,611, standing to the credit of the general revenue at the close of the financial year, 1914–15, became reduced to £21,086 by the 31st March, 1916.

2. The revenue includes a temporary loan of £5,000, and but for this abnormal assistance the deficit on normal transactions during the year would have been £19,525.

The normal revenue, however, exceeded the normal revenue of 1914–15, which amounted to £194,091, by £13,392.

3. The expenditure, which includes £8,293 " War Expenditure," exceeded the normal expenditure of 1914–15, amounting to £216,796, by £10,212. The figure £216,796, however, included a sum of £3,686 " war expenditure," and, if this sum as well as the £8,293, " war expenditure " of 1915–16 are deducted from the corresponding figures in their respective years, the normal expenditure in 1915–16 will be found to have exceeded the normal expenditure of 1914–15 by £5,605.

Revenue.

4. It will be noticed that the Colonial revenue increased, by £13,392, during a year in which the foundations of the civilized world were quivering from the effects of war. To the extent of £9,815, this increase was due to new taxation, viz :—Export duties on sugar and molasses, £5,160* ; increase of 1*s*. per gallon in the excise duty on rum, £2,118 ; and 20 per cent. additional duty on spirituous liquors and tobacco, £2,537. Apart from extra taxation, therefore, the annual revenue grew to the figure of £3,577. Two causes account for this satisfactory condition. The initial shock of war has passed : economic effects of war indeed, became universally accepted facts :

---

*This amount covers the period to the 31st December, 1915, the amount collected in 1916, under the provisions of the "Export Duties Continuance Act," not having been credited to Revenue until after the close of the financial year.

hence, during 1915–16 (rightly or wrongly) a lesser degree of economy, or individual retrenchment, was shewn than during 1914–15. Secondly, the exceptionally high price of sugar increased the spending power of the people, and thereby added to the vitality of the Colony's ordinary revenue.

5. The export duties on sugar and molasses were at the following rates:—

		s.	d.
Crystal sugar	.. per ton	2	6
Muscovado sugar ..	.. ,, ,,	1	8
Molasses	per 100 gals.	0	10

6. Compared with the year 1914–15, the principal increases in revenue, as well as the chief causes of increase, are as follows:—

Import Duties, £6,020.—Increased importations, particularly of coal, and additional duties on spirituous liquors and tobacco.

Excise, £2,118.—Additional duty.

Fees and Fines, £665.—Increased litigation, and this increase is, perhaps, noteworthy because it is a common sign of unusual prosperity.

Export Duty, £4,688.—Operation of the Export Duty Act, 1915.

Expenditure.

7. The normal expenditure of 1915–16 exceeded the normal expenditure of 1914–15 by £5,605. From this calculation all "war expenditure" is omitted as not being "normal."

8. The principal increases in expenditure, as well as the chief causes of increase, are as follows:—

Customs, £7,096.—Increased drawbacks.

Charges of Debt, £872.—Only six months interest paid in 1914–15 and twelve months in 1915–16 under Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Act, 1914.

War Expenditure, £6,746.

9. The principal decreases in expenditure, as well as the chief causes of decrease, are as follows:—

Governor, £1,596.—£1,600 "war expenditure" being added to the Governor's Vote in 1914–15.

Volunteer Force, £304.—Saving of personal emoluments of Regimental Sergeant Major and charges on material not yet brought in.

Water Department, £5,450.—Lower pumping expenses, owing to heavier rainfull swelling the underground rivers at points from which water is distributed by gravitation Also to Water Boat Renewal Fund Contribution (£700) not being paid.

Subsidies and Grants, £968.—Cessation of Royal Mail Contract and saving in 1914–15 on the Railway Subsidy.

Public Works Recurrent, £887.—Economies effected on account of the War.

10. The total expenditure directly due to the War amounted to £8,293. Indirectly, however, the War added to expenditure by increasing the cost of provisions and clothing required by Government Institutions.

Assets and Liabilities.

11. At the close of 1914–15, the excess of assets over liabilities stood at £29,841 ; but this amount had fallen to £11,186 by the 31st of March, 1916.

Public Debt.

12. The Public Debt remained at £447,900 while the sinking fund increased during the financial year from £122,264 to £131,667.

The Public Debt, as above, does not include the sum of £20,000 which was borrowed, temporarily, in 1914 from the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank. At the date of this report, however, the amount has been covered by a statutory loan.

Parochial Expenditure and Revenue.

13. The following compares the Parochial revenue and expenditure for the past two years :—

	1915–16.	1914–15.
	£	£
Revenue	70,286	67,410
Expenditure	66,299	66,087

The amount expended on poor relief during the year was £22,037, being £847 in excess of expenditure for the previous year.

TRADE.

14. In 1915 the value of Imports amounted to £1,270,154 as compared with £1,300,073 in 1914; and exports valued £1,181,986 as compared with £915,099 in 1914.

15. The decrease in Imports is due to war causes, principally lack of shipping facilities, higher freight rates, and to commodities reaching untempting prices.

16. The increase in value of exports is mainly due to the higher prices of sugar. Although the increase in quantity exported amounted only to 443½ to[illegible]n 1915, the increased value of the total export of sugar was estima[illegible] at £249,441.

The export of rum shewed an increase in quantity of 27,429 gallons and in value of £2,336.

The export of raw cotton shewed an increase of 73,945 lbs. in quantity and £3,569 in value.

17. The following shews the principal "countries of origin" in the case of Imports:—

	1915.	1914.
	£	£
United Kingdom	441,449	495,096
Canada	191,415	174,785
Newfoundland	29,366	32,026
British West Indies and British Guiana	118,244	118,827
India	17,390	35,076
Foreign Countries—		
United States	399,500	346,185
Argentine	15,437	25,366
Foreign West Indies and Guiana	29,951	21,187
Holland	7,012	29,743

18. The decrease in imports from Europe and India is due to the War; there was increasing difficulty in obtaining shipping facilities; moreover, the demands of belligerent nations in Europe tended to divert materials and provisions from being exported to the West Indies.

19. A corresponding increase is shewn in imports from the United States of America, Canada, and the Foreign West Indies, but the figures are in no way remarkable. The pre-war imports (1913) from the United States of America and Canada amounted to £381,259 and £192,495, thereby varying little in value during the year under review.

20. The following gives the percentage of imports from the principal "countries of origin" during the past two years:—

	1915.	1914.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	35	38
Canada	15	13
United States	31	26

21. The net loss of revenue attributable to the operations of Preferential Tariff during 1915 amounted to £363. This insignificant loss has caused no hardship on the consumer and the preference system is believed to be of material value to the staple industry of the Colony—sugar.

22. The following table gives the value of the principal imports from Canada during the past two years:—

(*a*) *Articles showing an increase:*

	1915.	1914.
	£	£
Fish, salted	33,914	19,638
Fish, pickled	2,591	1,248
Bran and Pollard	3,718	551
Flour	56,236	48,110
Manure (not sulphate of ammonia)	2,460	11
Pork, salted	3,300	1,700
Wood, white pine and spruce	32,652	21,197

23. (*b*) *Articles showing a decrease:*

	1915.	1914.
	£	£
Cheese	1,859	2,078
Oats	16,327	19,708
Hay	*Nil*	2,427
Manures (sulphate of ammonia)	15,612	30,269
Shingles	1,902	11,615

24. Of the articles shewing an increase, the increase is mainly accounted for by the rise in value. In the case of salt fish there has been a rise both in quantity and value, but, as compared with 1914, an increased value of £8,127 in salt fish was re-exported from Barbados to other West Indian Islands and the Guianas. The increased value of the flour import can be attributed entirely to rise in price, a less quantity having been imported in 1915 than in 1914. The increase in wood is due to the demand for wood for coopering purposes in anticipation of a large sugar crop, and over 1,600,000 feet in excess of the import for 1914 were brought into the Colony.

25. Of the articles shewing decreases, the decrease in importation of sulphate of ammonia as manure was compensated by the introduction of other manures, particularly guano and raw manures, in increased quantity.

The decrease in the importation of shingles was due to there being large stocks left on hand at the close of 1914.

IMPORTS.

26. It may be of interest to consider the effect which the War had, apparently, on the importation of principal foodstuffs. Increased cost brought about a decrease in the luxury "cheese," and the same

cause accounted for reduced importation in pickled "beef" which may, in a limited sense, be regarded as "luxury" seeing that it is not an absolutely essential part in the daily food of the multitude. Only 41,614 lbs. of "pulse" were imported from the United Kingdom: the amount represents a drop to the extent of 840,000 lbs. as compared with the year 1913: the shortage, however, was made good, partially, by 512,353 lbs. imported from a new market, viz., from Canada, whence no "pulse" had been imported during previous years. "Rice" from India fell almost two million pounds, but, fortunately, nearly the same amount was obtained by increased importation of rice from British Guiana. Still greater good fortune was shewn by the year being exceptionally prolific as regard the production of locally-grown foodstuffs.

EXPORTS.

27. The following table gives a comparison of the value of the exports of the produce and manufacture of the Colony with those of other countries:—

	1915.	1914.
	£	£
Colony	840,582	661,065
Other Countries	341,404	254,034

28. The following comparative table gives the value of principal exports of Colonial produce and manufacture compared with the previous year:—

	1915.	1914
	£	£
Bread and Crackers..	6,648	6,600
Cotton-seed meal	1,769	1,625
Raw Cotton	17,042	13,473
Hides and Skins	4,214	6,334
Lime, building	1,752	1,454
Oleomargarine	1,913	2,251
Vegetables, fresh	8,959	6,676
Sugar, Muscovado	159,512	94,688
,, Crystals	342,989	158,372
Molasses, choice	74,173	55,332
,, fancy	204,904	306,076
,, vacuum pan	8,526	1,158
Rum	2,780	444

29. The following table compares the quantity as well as value of sugar and molasses exported :—

	1915.	1914.
Molasses, choice—		
Gallons	1,780,147	1,897,108
Value	£74,173	£55,332
Molasses, fancy—		
Gallons	3,782,851	9,182,289
Value	£204,904	£306,076
Molasses, vacuum pan—		
Gallons	454,717	138,957
Value	£8,526	£1,158
Sugar, crystals—		
Tons	19,878	17,568
Value	£342,989	£158,372
Sugar, Muscovado—		
Tons	9,969	11,836
Value	£159,512	£94,688

30. The following table gives the average prices for the past two years :—

	1915.			1914.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sugar, crystals, dark—per ton	17	5	0	9	0	0
,, ,, white ,, ...	20	0	0	12	2	8
,, ,, yellow ,, ...	18	5	0	11	0	0
,, Muscovado ,, ...	16	0	0	8	0	0
Molasses, choice—per gallon	0	0	10	0	0	7
,, fancy ,, ...	0	1	1	0	0	8
,, vacuum pan—per ton	16	0	0	8	0	0

31. The following table gives the comparison in quantity and value of cotton exported during the past two years :—

		1915.	1914.
Cotton, raw	lbs.	294,926	220,981
Value	..	£17,042	£13,473
Cotton-seed meal	lbs.	884,346	970,976
Value	..	£1,769	£1,625

32. The following table gives the destination of the products exported for the past two years:—

	1915.	1914.
	£	£
United Kingdom	51,966	42,111
Canada	632,911	466,881
United States	45,467	74,481
Newfoundland	57,948	37,436

33. The principal destinations of sugar were as follows:—

	1915.	1914.
	£	£
United Kingdom	22,776	20,867
Canada	452,371	202,168
British West Indies	11,060	6,200
Holland	9,224	4,720

34. The principal destinations of molasses were as follows:—

	1915.	1914.
	£	£
United Kingdom	7,940	5,457
Canada	180,013	262,320
Newfoundland	57,293	36,772
United States	39,460	56,769

The transit export trade shewed an increase of £87,370 above that of 1914.

SHIPPING.

35. The number of steamers entered at the Port of Bridgetown in 1915 was 637 as compared with 646 in 1914 and 709 in 1913. These figures, in view of the exigencies of war and the demand for freightage, shew a surprising steadiness.

36. The tonnage amounted to 1,577,789 tons as compared with 1,610,020 in 1914. The number of sailing vessels entered was 618 (tonnage being 116,274 tons), as compared with 701 (tonnage being 157,222 tons), in the previous year.

37. Of the ships entered, 846 were British with gross tonnage of 1,166,453 as compared with 986 in the previous year, with tonnage 1,367,730. Foreign ships entered amounted to 409 with tonnage of 527, 610, as compared with 361 in 1914 with tonnage of 399,512.

38. The number of steamers coaled was 303, and the amount of coal taken 88,728 tons. In 1914 only 198 steamers were coaled and 48,598 tons of coal taken. The figure 88,728 tons represents a record for the Island for the last ten years.

The Panama Canal suffered from "landslips," and, owing thereto, several steamers altered their route so that they might coal at Barbados.

The increase in coaling was mainly due to an increase in the number of foreign steamers trading between North and South America, but coaling at Barbados. Certain British lines also, previously coaling in South American ports, coaled at Barbados. The coaling facilities of the port proved to be satisfactory, and on one occasion 2,034 tons of coal were delivered, to seven steamers, in the space of fourteen hours.

39. In spite of the War, one "tourist ship" visited the Island.

The number of passengers arriving in the Island, exclusive of those in transit, was 8,838 as compared with 11,898 in 1914.

AGRICULTURE.

40. The seedling sugar-cane B.6450, to which reference has been made in the last three annual reports, continues to give excellent results as compared with the White Transparent and other varieties that have been cultivated for some years. The Barbados Department of Agriculture reports that for the 1915 crop the average yield of this variety over large areas exceeded that of the White Transparent, the standard cane, on the average of both plants and ratoons in the black and red soil districts, by 8·7 tons of canes per acre and in spite of the comparatively poor quality of the juice, due to the excessive rainfall during the reaping season which prevented the canes from ripening properly, by over half a ton of dark crystal sugar per acre. Further that the monetary gain to the planters, had the whole 30,000 acres been planted in this variety, would, at the average price at which sugar sold during the ten years previous to the outbreak of the War, have been not less than £160,000.

41. Other new varieties, notably Ba.6032 and B.H.10 (12), have during the period under review given excellent results, and plants are now being distributed to the estates for cultivation in considerable areas. Of the former over 1,000 acres have been planted for the crop of 1917. During the crop of 1915 the experimental trials with the Ba.6032 on nine estates resulted, on the average, in an increase over B.6450 of 1,334 lbs. of saccharose per acre.

42. As regards cotton, the Barbados Department of Agriculture has endeavoured, during many years, to obtain, by selection and hybridisation, varieties having resistance to insect pests and fungoid diseases, and giving satisfactory yields of good quality lint. The cotton from the more promising plots was reported on by Mr. C. M. Wolstenholme, of the firm of Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland, cotton brokers, of Liverpool and Manchester, as being "bright staple, very

fine, long, and strong," while the yield has been satisfactory. The Department is continuing its efforts in the above directions in order that, when the War is over and the price of sugar returns to its normal condition, there may be seed of high grade cottons giving heavy yields of good quality lint ready for distribution.

INDUSTRIES.

43. 185,952 gallons of rum were manufactured in the Island as compared with 235,049 in 1914, shewing a decrease of 50,097 gallons.

44. Of 291 sugar works in the Island, 102 were equipped with steam machinery. There is a tendency generally towards the erection of improved machinery on sugar estates. Improvement in this direction, however, has been retarded on account of increased difficulty, owing to conditions resultant on war, in obtaining material.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

45. The comparison with the previous year shews :—

	1915.	1914.
Summary convictions ..	12,719	10,351
Convictions in superior courts	84	75

46. The following table shews the percentage of convictions to population (estimated in 1915 at 180,516) :—

1914	5·91
1915	7·00

47. The number of cane fires which had increased to 270 in 1914 decreased to 125 in 1915. A commission appointed to enquire into the increased number of cane fires in 1914 recommended the introduction of legislation to prevent loitering and carelessness with fire. Legislation was, however, not proceeded with, and the decrease in the number of cane fires in 1915 is attributed to a more careful watch being organised by the owners of plantations, and to the example made by the convictions and punishment of certain incendiaries.

VITAL STATISTICS.

48. The population of the Colony on the 31st December, 1915, was estimated to be 180,516, comprising 76,958 males and 103,558 females, an estimated increase of 4,119 on the total for December 31st, 1914. These figures are based on the census return of 1911 with corrections for births, deaths, immigration and emigration.

The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages for the past two years:—

	1915.	1914.
Births	5,334	6,549
Birth rate per 1,000	29·5	37·4
Burials	6,168	6,380
Death rate per 1,000	34·2	36·5
Marriages	564	582

Illegitimate births numbered 3,348 or 62·7 per cent. of the total births.

The burial of children under a year old numbered 1,031, giving a rate of 193 per 1,000, as against 403 per 1,000 in 1914, 213 in 1913 and 416 in 1912. This marked decrease is attributed to the diminution in cases of infantile diarrhoea, and not to action taken by the Government or the health authorities.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

49. Strictly speaking, the Barbados General Hospital is not a Government Institution or under Government control. It is maintained by a Government grant and is governed by a Court of Directors, two of whom are life members, whereas the remainder must either be Government officers, sitting ex-officio, or members of the Legislature.

The following table gives the principal statistics of the Hospital for the past two years:—

	Daily Average of patients.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Out-patients
1915	103·5	2,913	216	34,437
1914	147	2,980	271	27,738

50. At the Lazaretto:—

The following table gives the principal statistics of the Lazaretto for the past two years:—

	Residents.	Deaths.	Admissions.	Average stay of those who died.
1915	130	16	25	8·4 years.
1914	121	11	14	17·5 ,,

51. At the Lunatic Asylum the daily average number of patients decreased from 424 in 1914 to 389 in 1915. The admissions numbered 88, discharges 47, and the deaths 91, as compared with 114, 51, and 91. in the preceding year.

52. At Glendairy Prison the daily average of prisoners rose from 257 in 1914 to 325 in 1915, and the number of persons committed to penal imprisonment from 2,192 to 2,422. The discipline of the prison was satisfactorily maintained, there having been no occasion to bring any prisoner before the Visiting Justice. There was, however, an increase in the number of minor punishments.

53. The number at the Government Industrial School for boys increased from 161 on the 31st December, 1914, to 166 at the close of 1915, with a daily average of 165.

Useful practical education is given to the boys at the Industrial School, and on the land allotted to the Institution they receive excellent training in agriculture.

54. The number at the Government Industrial School for girls, increased from 57 at the close of 1914 to 60 on the 31st December, 1915, with a daily average of 61.

55. The expenditure on the Boys' School, including agricultural expenditure, amounted to £3,107, and on the Girls' School to £945. The receipts from the estates cultivated amounted to £2,966 as compared with £1,518 in the previous year. The increase in receipts is due to the high price of dark crystal sugar, and the increased value of vegetable products planted after the outbreak of war. The total receipts from all sources amounted to £3,022, and the net cost of these institutions amounted therefore, to £1,030, a decrease of £1,155 on the year 1914.

56. The deposits in the Savings Bank during the financial year, 1915–16, amounted to £203,731, as compared with £193,646 in the previous year. The withdrawals amounted to £177,217, as compared with £215,219 in 1914–15.

POOR RELIEF.

57. 2,292 persons, *i.e.*, 13·3 per 1,000 of the entire population, were in receipt of relief on the 31st December, 1915.

The total expenditure from parochial funds on poor relief amounted to £20,622, being at the rate of 2*s*. $4\frac{3}{10}$*d*. per head of population as computed on the Census Returns for 1911.

EDUCATION.

58. The total expenditure under this head was £22,234. Thus, the Colony expends approximately, ten per cent. of its annual revenue on providing education facilities for its inhabitants.

59. Codrington College, founded in 1745, opened as a College in 1830, is affiliated to Durham University. Twenty scholars were on the roll at the close of 1915, as compared with 24 the previous year. No Legislative grant is made to the College, but four Island Scholarships of the value of £40 per annum, and tenable for two years, are annually voted.

60. The training Institute for Elementary Teachers, now styled the "Rawle Institute for the Training of Teachers," inaugurated by the Rev. A. H. Anstey, was extended to allow of the admittance of a

limited number of female teachers. To accomplish this, a block of buildings, used as the Society Girls' and Infant School, was reconstructed both for accommodation for Students, and as residence for a Lady Superintendent. The cost of the reconstruction was borne by the Rev. A. H. Anstey.

The institution was fortunate in obtaining the service of Miss Robinson, who, selected by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, came out at her own cost, and pioneered this branch of the institution. There were twelve male and six female teachers under training during the year, and valuable work was performed at the Institute. The latter owes its existence to the liberality of the Rev. A. H. Anstey, although a grant of £300 per annum is allowed for teachers' training.

61. The statistics relating to the larger Schools which received Legislative Grants during 1915 shew the following :—

	No. of pupils on rolls.
Boys (First Grade)—	
Harrison College	145
The Lodge School	65
Boys (Second Grade)—	
Combermere School	163
Girls (First Grade)—	
Queen's College	88

62. The number of Primary Schools was 146, with 23,487 children on the rolls, and an average attendance of 13,615.

POST OFFICE.

63. A postal Convention with the United States of America came into effect on the 1st April, reducing postage from 2½*d.* to 1*d.* per ounce, between Barbados and the United States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Porto Rico. The number of letters despatched to the United States of America was, however, only 8,356 in excess of the number for 1914.

The mail contract between the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, for conveyance of mails to and from the West Indies was terminated on the 21st August, at the Company's request, owing to difficulty in carrying on the service due to the War.

64. The following table gives a comparison between the Postal Revenue and Expenditure for 1915 and 1914 :—

	1915.	1914.	Increase.	Decrease.
	£	£	£	£
Revenue	6,743	8,099	—	1,356
Expenditure	7,206	7,462	—	256

65. The decrease in Postal Revenue is due, in great measure, to the reduced rate of postage to the United States of America. The reduced number of letters to the Panama Canal Zone and foreign countries also adversely affected the revenue.

GENERAL REMARKS.

66. A desire to take an active part in the military operations in Europe, led to batches of recruits leaving Barbados, for enlistment in British regiments; a decision was subsequently arrived at to form these recruits into a West Indian Contingent, together with recruits from other West Indian Colonies, and to send them to Europe for active service. A Recruiting Committee was inaugurated in the Colony, and, on the issues of the War being explained to the people, recruits were readily forthcoming. Selection was made from the best qualified men, but a large number of those who presented themselves for enlistment failed to reach the necessary standards. The House of Assembly has readily voted money for transport, outfit, separation allowances, and disability pensions.

Funds were also raised by private enterprise for the formation of a "Citizens' Contingent," the object of this movement being to send to England men who might be specially anxious to enlist directly into British regiments.

The Island generally has interested itself in raising money for various War charities and the following statement sets forth th principal Funds to which remittances have been made :—

	£
Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund	3,313
Queen Mary's Fund	1,266
British Red Cross Society	880
Belgian Relief Fund	2,218
Barbados Motor Ambulance Fund	2,174

67. The health of the Island is due, largely, to the admirable supply of water, and, during 1915, this supply was made more extensive by the completion of the higher level water supply extension. This work had been in course of construction for seven years. The scheme comprised the carrying of water from Golden Ridge reservoir, 895 feet above sea level to a reservoir at Castle Grant Plantation, 1,100 feet above sea level, and from there to distribute water throughout the higher level district. The Castle Grant reservoir contains 298,000 gallons of water, which is sufficient to supply more than the present demand. Great benefit has been conferred on a considerable area of the Island by this extension, the construction of which reflects much credit on the Water Department.

T. E. Fell,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados.
19th October, 1916.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
877	Trinidad and Tobago	1914–1915
878	Nigeria	1914
879	Cayman Islands	1914–1915
880	St. Lucia	,,
881	East Africa Protectorate	,,
882	Imperial Institute	1914
883	Nyasaland	1914–1915
884	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
885	Weihaiwei	1915
886	Zanzibar	,,
887	Fiji	,,
888	Sierra Leone	,,
889	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
890	Gambia	,,
891	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
892	Hong Kong	,,
893	Ashanti	,,
894	Gold Coast	,,
895	Malta	1915–1916
896	St. Helena	1915
897	Seychelles	,,
898	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1915–1916
899	Gibraltar	1915
900	Bahamas	1915–1916
901	Swaziland	,,
902	Somaliland	,,
903	Cyprus	,,
904	Ceylon	1915
905	Straits Settlements	,,
906	Grenada	1915–1916
907	Falkland Islands	1915
908	Bermuda	,,
909	Jamaica	1915–1916
910	British Guiana	1915
911	Basutoland	1915–1916

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 951.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1916-17.

(For Report for 1915–16 see No. 912.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

February, 1918.

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REPORT ON THE BARBADOS BLUE BOOK FOR 1916–17.*

FINANCIAL.

General.

1. In the year 1916–17

	£
The Revenue amounted to	311,113
The Expenditure amounted to	242,605
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure ..	£68,508

The balance of £21,086, standing to the credit of general revenue at the close of 1915–16, was increased to £89,594 at the 31st March, 1917.

2. The revenue includes revenue derived from loans, temporary and otherwise, amounting to £64,000. Excluding this sum, the excess of revenue over expenditure for the year amounted to £4,508.

The normal revenue amounted to £247,113, and exceeded the normal revenue of 1915–16, viz., £207,483, by £39,630.

3. The total of expenditure includes £11,457 " War Expenditure." Regarding this sum as abnormal expenditure, and consequently deducting it, the normal expenditure for 1916–17 exceeded the normal expenditure for 1915–16, viz., £218,715, by £12,433.

Revenue.

4. The Colonial revenue increased by £39,630. The increases are mainly due to Reimbursements in Aid, Import Duties, Excise, Post Office, and Tonnage.

The increase in Reimbursements in Aid is due to receipts from the Special Account, derived from export and stamp duties for War expenditure, to reimburse payments made from time to time out of general revenue on account of War expenditure.

The increases in Import Duties is due to increased value of imports paying *ad valorem* duties; in Excise, to increased consumption; in Post Office receipts, to orders from abroad for postage stamps, consequent upon a new issue, and to increased local sales; and in Tonnage, to a large sugar crop and, consequently, greater exports.

The cause which, generally, contributed to this satisfactory condition, may be attributed to a large sugar crop, which, with high prices maintained during the year, increased the spending power of the community and stimulated general trade.

5. Compared with 1915–16 the principal increases in revenue are as follows:—

	£
Reimbursements in Aid	19,476
Import Duties	15,890
Excise..	5,172
Post Office	1,925
Tonnage	1,819

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*A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 871: [Cd. 7622–62].

(C437) Wt. 11/42. 1,000 & 90. 2.18. B.&F.Ltd. Gp.11/2.

6. There are no decreases under the head of Revenue worthy of comment.

Expenditure.

7. The normal expenditure of 1916–17 exceeded that of 1915–16 by £12,433.

8. The principal increases in expenditure are as follows :—

Post Office, £1,059.—Due to increases in salaries, and cost of the new issue of stamps.

Waterworks Department, £3,820.—Due to the increased cost of coal, and to £700 being paid for the previous year on account of the Water Boat Sinking Fund.

Miscellaneous Service, £13,700.—Due to war bonuses, repayment of temporary loans, and expenses in connection with an outbreak of supposed yellow fever.

9. The principal decreases in expenditure are :—

Harbour and Shipping Master, £2,956.—Due to fewer claims for drawbacks on exported goods.

Subsidies, £3,953.—Due to cessation of mail and railway subsidies.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

10. The excess of assets over liabilities, which had fallen to £11,186 on the 31st of March, 1916, increased to £30,160 on the 31st of March, 1917.

PUBLIC DEBT.

11. The Public Debt increased during the year from £447,900 to £473,900, while the sinking fund increased from £131,667 to £140,924.

12. It should be remarked that £22,528 was derived during the financial year 1916–17 from export duties on sugar and molasses, and £5,920 from the operation of the Stamp Act, with interest amounting to £113. The Legislature decided that revenue from these sources should be earmarked, as a special fund, for war expenditure, and should not be credited to general revenue.

PAROCHIAL EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE.

13. The parochial revenue amounted to £70,757, and expenditure to £66,298, as compared with £70,286 and £66,299 in the year 1915–16.

The sum of £22,135 was expended on poor relief in the Island, representing a rate of approximately 2*s.* 4¾*d.* per head on the estimated population at the 31st December, 1916.

TRADE.

14. The value of imports for the year 1916 amounted to £1,851,054, or £580,900 in excess of the figure for 1915. Exports, valued at £2,207,257, exceeded the value of exports for the previous year by £1,025,271. The value of imports and exports for 1916 created a record for the Colony.

15. The increase in value of imports can be attributed mainly to increased value of commodities, the importation of which was rendered practicable by the high price of sugar exported, and a large crop. Money, consequently, was more plentiful, and the disadvantages of higher freight rates and high prices, which had rendered importation of commodities untempting in the two previous years, were overcome.

16. The increase in value of exports is due to high prices of sugar and a large crop. The quantity of sugar exported exceeded the export of the previous year by 25,588 tons, and the value was estimated at £1,100,995, an increase of £598,494 on 1915.

9,816,015 gallons of molasses were exported, as compared with 6,020,311 in the previous year, with an excess value of £252,971 over 1915.

The export of rum showed an increase of 65,705 gallons, the quantity exported amounting to 99,062 gallons.

The export of raw cotton shows a decrease of 161,530 lb., the export amounting to only 143,024 lb. The high price of sugar resulted in more land being cultivated for that product, to the detriment of cotton.

17. The following table sets forth the principal "countries of origin" of imports for the past two years :—

	1916. £	1915. £
United Kingdom	596,920	441,449
Canada	320,011	191,415
United States	624,410	399,500

18. The following table gives the percentage of imports from principal "countries of origin" during the past two years :—

	1916. Per cent.	1915. Per cent.
United Kingdom	32	35
Canada	17	15
United States	33	31

19. The net loss of revenue attributable to the operations of preferential tariff during 1916 amounted to £314. This trifling sum cannot be said to have affected the general beneficial results obtained through the preferential system.

20. The following table gives the value of the principal imports from Canada during the past two years :—

	1916. £	1915. £
Fish (salted)	46,744	33,914
Flour	88,598	56,236
Oats	27,882	16,327
Manure (sulphate of ammonia)	72,870	15,612
Wood	29,436	32,652
Shingles	13,575	1,902

The increase in the value of the import of salted fish is due both to increased importation—exceeding that of the previous year by almost 9,000 quintals—and higher value.

The importation of flour increased by approximately 15,000 barrels, the average price being 4*s.* per barrel higher than in 1915.

The importation of oats exceeded that of 1915 by over 1,300,000 lb., the average price being 2*s.* 6*d.* per 100 lb. in excess of the previous year.

The importation of sulphate of ammonia exceeded that of 1915 by 2,600 tons, and the average price for 1916 was £4 10*s.* per ton higher than the previous year.

The importation of shingles increased owing to the exhaustion in 1915 of large stocks imported in 1914.

EXPORTS.

21. The following table gives the value of the export of produce and manufacture of the Colony, and of other countries :—

	1916. £	1915. £
Colony	1,687,888	840,582
Other Countries	519,369	341,404

22. The following comparative statement gives the value of the principal exports of Colonial produce and manufacture for the past two years :—

	1916. £	1915. £
Bread and Crackers	6,339	6,648
Raw Cotton	9,845	17,042
Fresh Vegetables	7,416	8,959
Sugars (all grades)	1,100,995	502,501
Molasses (all grades)	540,574	287,603
Rum	9,081	2,780

23. The following table compares quantity and value of sugar and molasses exported :—

	1916.	1915.
Molasses (choice)—		
Gallons	2,379,741	1,780,147
Value	£123,945	£74,173
Molasses (fancy)—		
Gallons	6,887,387	3,782,851
Value	£401,764	£204,904
Molasses (vacuum pan)—		
Gallons	548,887	454,717
Value	£14,865	£8,526
Sugar (crystals)—		
Tons	38,192	19,878
Value	£763,860	£342,989
Sugar (muscovado)—		
Tons	17,264	9,969
Value	£336,648	£159,512

24. The average price of crystal sugar during the year was £20 per ton for dark crystals, £25 per ton for white crystals, and £19 10*s.* per ton for muscovado. These prices compare with £17 5*s.*, £20, £16 per ton, respectively, for the previous year.

Molasses, which averaged in price during 1915, 10*d.*, 1*s.* 1*d.*, and 4½*d.* per gallon for choice, fancy, and vacuum pan grades, rose to 1*s.* 0½*d.*, 1*s.* 2*d.* and 6½*d.*, respectively, in average price in 1916.

25. The transit export trade showed an increase in value of £177,965 over that of the previous year.

26. The following table gives the principal destinations of products exported during 1915 and 1916:—

	1916.	1915.
	£	£
United Kingdom	226,742	51,966
Canada	1,206,544	632,911
United States	141,918	45,467
Newfoundland	76,929	57,948

SHIPPING.

27. The number of steamers entered at the Port of Bridgetown in 1916 was 547, with a gross tonnage of 1,380,266 tons, as compared with 637 in the previous year, aggregating a tonnage of 1,577,789 tons.

28. The number of sailing vessels entered was 636, tonnage 130,145 tons, as compared with 618 for 1915, with tonnage of 116,274 tons.

29. Of all shipping entered, 803 were British vessels, with tonnage of 922,865 tons, as compared with 846 in 1915, aggregating 1,166,453 tons.

30. Foreign ships to the number of 391, tonnage 589,195, entered, as compared with 409 in 1915, with a tonnage of 527,610 tons.

31. These figures demonstrate a steadiness, which, during a year in which submarine warfare has been vigorously waged against merchant shipping, is remarkable.

32. The number of vessels coaled amounted to 291, taking 82,213 tons of coal. This compares with 303 vessels in 1915, taking 88,728 tons.

33. The number of passengers arriving in the Island, exclusive of those in transit, was 8,790, as compared with 8,838 in the previous year.

AGRICULTURE.

34. The export of sugar has been set out under its various headings in paragraph 23. The following are the quantities of the exports for the past two years in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto):—1915, 39,803 tons; 1916, 73,581 tons.

The very large increase of 33,778 tons over the crop of the previous year was due mainly to the very favourable weather conditions that prevailed during the time the crop was grown, and also to the fact that, owing to the very high price of sugar caused by the War, the sugar growers had grown a larger number of ratoon canes than usual, and had also for the same reason planted a considerable area of the land in sugar-canes that had in previous years been devoted to cotton.

Owing to the very favourable weather conditions that prevailed during 1916, the crop of 1917 is likely to be a good one, and, as there is a probability of the high prices that obtained during the previous year continuing, it is expected that the profits to the sugar growers will again be considerable and greatly exceed those for many years previous to the War.

The seedling sugar-cane, B.6450, to which reference has been made in the last four annual reports, continues to give excellent results as compared with the White Transparent and other varieties that have been under cultivation for some years. The Barbados Department of Agriculture reports that for the crop of 1916, the average yield of this variety over large areas exceeded that of the White Transparent, the standard cane, on the average of both plants and ratoons, by about five tons of canes per acre, i.e., about half a ton of dark crystal sugar per acre. As it is estimated that 32,000 acres of canes were grown for the crop of 1916, the increase to the island, if only B.6450 had been grown, would have been equal to about 16,000 tons of dark crystal sugar. At the average price at which dark crystal sugar sold for the past twenty years, viz., £10 14*s.* 11½*d.*, the monetary gain to the Island from the seedling cane, B.6450, would be not less than £172,000. If the increase was calculated at the price obtained for dark crystal sugar during 1916, viz., £19 3*s.* 7*d.*, the monetary gain to the Island would be not less than £306,000. It may be of interest to state that the Superintendent of Agriculture reports having raised three other seedling sugar-canes, viz., B.H.10(12), Ba.6032, and Ba.7924, which have, so far, given better results than the B.6450,—the B.H.10(12), on the average of four years grown in the same fields and under the same conditions as the B.6450, having given from 21 plots 2,478 lb. of saccharose per acre more than that cane; the Ba.6032, for the same period and under similar conditions, from 49 plots, 1,303 lb. of saccharose per acre; and Ba.7924, for the same period and under similar conditions, from 16 plots, 1,057 lb. of saccharose per acre more than the B.6450.

35. The following table gives the comparison of cotton crops by the crop and not by calendar years:—

		Crop of 1915–16.	Crop of 1914–15.	Decrease
Acres ..	..	1,078	2,323	1,245 acres
Quantity	lbs.	132,733	303,681	170,948
Value ..	..	£8,889	£16,841	£7,952

As will be seen, the area reaped was 1,245 acres and the yield 170,948 lb. less than the previous year. This decrease in yield was due not only to the lessened area planted but also to the fact that, when the cotton was fruiting, periods of heavy rains occurred which caused a large number of the bolls to drop. The continued reduction of the area under cotton is due mainly to the fact that the price of sugar and its by-products is so high at the present time, that it pays the planters better to grow sugar-canes than cotton. It is also due, to a lesser extent, to the susceptibility of the imported strains of cotton to the attacks of fungoid diseases and insect pests. It may be mentioned that the efforts of the Barbados Department of Agriculture to improve both the exotic and indigenous cottons by selection and hybridisation have been continued with some success. In confirmation of this it may be stated that a sample of the improved exotic cotton was submitted to Mr. John W. McConnel, a member of the Fine Cotton Spinners & Doublers Association, Limited, of Manchester, and, in summing up his report to the Superintendent of Agriculture, he states, "I must congratulate you on producing so fine a cotton, which, if produced commercially, will, I feel sure, compete with some of the best cottons of St. Vincent and St. Kitts."

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

36. The comparison with the previous year sh

	1916.		1915.
Summary convictions	11,822		12,719
Convictions in superior courts ..	78	..	84

37. The following table gives the percentage of convictions to population in 1916, estimated at 184,259, for the past two years :—

1915	7·00
1916	6·45

38. Cane fires, which numbered 270 in 1914, fell to 125 in 1915, but rose to 160 in 1916.

VITAL STATISTICS.

39. The population of the Island on the 31st December was estimated at 184,259, comprising 78,959 males and 105,300 females, representing an increase of 3,743 on the estimated total at the close of the previous year.

The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages for the past two years :—

	1916.		1915.
Births	5,873	..	5,334
Birth-rate per 1,000	32·2	..	29·5
Deaths	4,152	..	3,439
Death-rate per 1,000	22·7	..	19·2
Marriages	718	..	564

Illegitimate births numbered 3,827, or 65 per cent. of the total births.

The infantile death-rate of children under the age of 1 year wa 242 per 1,000, as against 193 per 1,000 in 1915, and 403 per 1,000 in 1914. Of the total deaths recorded, 1,420 were of children under the age of 1 year.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

40. The Barbados General Hospital is maintained by a Government grant, and is under the management of a Court of Directors, two of whom are life members, and the remainder Government officers or members of the Legislature.

The principal statistics for the past two years are as follows :—

	Daily average of patients.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Out-patients.
1916 ..	143 ..	2,442 ..	189 ..	37,118
1915 ..	103·5 ..	2,913 ..	216 ..	34,437

41. The following table gives the principal statistics for the Lazaretto for the past two years :—

	Average daily resident.	Deaths.	Admissions.	Average stay of those who died.
1916 ..	134 ..	8 ..	22 ..	9·3 years
1915 ..	130 ..	16 ..	25 ..	8·4 „

42. The Lunatic Asylum.—The following table gives the principal statistics:—

	Average daily resident.	Deaths.	Admissions.	Discharges.
1916	375	55	106	46
1915	389	91	88	47

Beneficial results were obtained in the case of inmates suffering from pellagra by the institution of a special diet, the results of which are being recorded and watched with interest.

43. At Glendairy Prison the daily average fell from 325 in 1915 to 279 in 1916. The number of persons committed to penal imprisonment amounted to 2,059, as compared with 2,422 in 1915. The discipline of the prison was satisfactorily maintained.

44. The average daily number at the Government Industrial School was 164, being a decrease of one, compared with the previous year. The expenditure on the institution amounted to £3,125, and the receipts, derived almost entirely from the land, from the working of which the boys receive a useful agricultural training, amounted to £2,491.

The average daily number at the Government Industrial School for girls amounted to 60. The expenditure at this institution amounted to £997 for the year.

Useful practical education is given at both the Girls' and Boys' Industrial Schools.

45. The deposits in the Savings Bank during the financial year 1916-17 amounted to £254,790, as compared with £203,731 in the previous year. The withdrawals amounted to £274,456, as compared with £177,217 in 1915-16.

POST OFFICE.

46. The following statement shows revenue and expenditure for the past two years:—

	1916. £	1915. £
Revenue	8,463	6,743
Expenditure	8,146	7,206

The increase in revenue is due mainly to the purchase, by stamp dealers, of the new issue of stamps.

EDUCATION.

47. The total expenditure under this head amounted to £21,430, a decrease of £804 on the previous year.

48. Codrington College, founded in 1745, and affiliated to Durham University, had 20 scholars on the roll at the close of 1916, a similar number to the previous year. The Legislature votes four Island Scholarships of a value of £40 per annum each, and tenable for two years to the College.

49. The Rawle Training Institute, for the training of elementary school teachers, which owes its existence to the liberality of the Rev. A. H. Anstey, Principal of Codrington College, had 9 male and

8 female teachers under training during the year. In future, 6 male and 6 female teachers will be annually trained.

50. At the principal higher grade schools, the following numbers were on the roll :—

	No. of pupils on rolls.
Boys (First Grade)—	
Harrison College	148
The Lodge School	71
Boys (Second Grade)—	
Combermere School	153
Girls (First Grade)—	
Queen's College	66

51. The number of primary schools, including the four Ragged schools, was 150, with 23,277 children on the rolls, and an average attendance of 12,981.

The total Government grant for elementary education was £13,419, and a grant was also made from parochial funds, amounting to £1,025.

52. Provision exists for an annual scholarship, known as the "Barbados Scholarship," open to boys and girls, of the value of £175 per annum, tenable for four years at one of the Universities of Europe or Canada, or at any agricultural or technical college in Europe or America which may be approved by the Education Board.

The Board of Education suffered a great loss by the death of the Right Reverend W. P. Swaby, Bishop of Barbados and the Windward Islands, and Archbishop of the West Indies. The Archbishop had taken keen interest in education, and had occupied the position of President of the Board since the year 1900.

GENERAL REMARKS.

53. Recruits for the British West Indies Regiment were readily forthcoming as they were required. The Legislature voted the necessary funds for transport, equipment, separation allowances, and disability pensions

The "Citizens Contingent," supported by private enterprise, continued its activity in sending to England men desirous of enlisting directly into British regiments.

54. The Island continued to interest itself in raising funds for the assistance of war charities, and the following are the principal sums which have been collected during the year :—

	£
Prince of Wales's National Relief Fund.. ..	530
French Red Cross	937
Belgian Relief Fund	1,021
Barbados Motor Ambulance Fund	1,503
Star and Garter Fund	1,000

55. In June, 1916, the Barbados Light Railway was compulsorily shut down, by reason of a report from a qualified inspector that it was unsafe for traffic. The property was subsequently acquired by the Barbados Government for a sum of £20,000. £15,000 of this amount was provided from Government funds, £5,000 being subscribed

by certain planters interested in the railway, and presented as a free gift towards the purchase.

The management of the railway was entrusted to a board of local gentlemen, whose praiseworthy efforts towards reconstruction were rewarded by the railway being opened for goods traffic on the 9th February, 1917, in sufficient time to enable the sugar crop of the districts, dependent upon railway transport, to be successfully handled.

56. In September, 1916, the Island was quarantined for yellow fever. Some difference of opinion existed as to the true nature of the disease, which differed in certain respects from type.

Advantage was taken of a visit to the Island of General W. C. Gorgas, of the United States Army Medical Services, and Dr. Juan Guiteras, yellow fever experts of world renown, to consult them as to the prevalent disease. Dr. Guiteras remained for several weeks in the Island for purposes of investigation, and eventually declared the disease not to be yellow fever, but a type of infectious jaundice. The quarantine was accordingly withdrawn.

57. Increased cost of necessaries of life, owing to war conditions, led to the Government introducing a system of bonuses on salaries not exceeding £175 per annum, of Government officers. In spite of the increased cost of living, there was no shortage of food supplies and no serious industrial trouble occurred during the year.

58. In a year when the foundations of the civilised world continued to be shaken by war, the statistics set forth in this report denote a condition of unprecedented prosperity. This satisfactory condition is due to a benign Providence, resulting in a year of good weather conditions, with ample and well distributed rainfall and no tropical disturbance to interfere with the excellence of the crop. Thus, Barbados enjoyed the combination, unusual in her history, of a large sugar crop and continued high prices. Records were established in revenue and trade, and money was readily subscribed for local loans. Estates have, for the most part, been cleared of debt, and profits are being largely applied by the estate owner to the erection of improved machinery and general estate improvement, in order to insure, in the future, the more effective manufacture of sugar, the staple industry of the Island. The difficulty in obtaining material has alone somewhat retarded progress in this direction, but that progress, when material becomes more readily available, is now an assured fact.

59. Gifts of £40,000 to the Imperial Government towards the prosecution of the War were voted by the Legislature, £20,000 of which was remitted during 1916, and the Colony recorded its determination to render all assistance in its power towards prosecuting the War to a successful termination, in a resolution passed by the House of Assembly on the third anniversary of the Declaration of War.

T. E. FELL,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados.
15th October, 1917.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
917	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1915
918	St. Lucia	1915–1916
919	Nyasaland	"
920	Nigeria	1915
921	East Africa Protectorate	1915–1916
922	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	"
923	Hong Kong	1916
924	Weihaiwei	"
925	Zanzibar	"
926	Fiji	"
927	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
928	Cayman Islands	1915–1916
929	Seychelles	1916
930	Trinidad and Tobago	"
931	Gibraltar	"
932	Bahamas	1916–1917
933	St. Helena	1916
934	Ceylon	"
935	Malta	1916–1917
936	Gambia	1916
937	British Guiana	"
938	Falkland Islands	"
939	Sierra Leone	"
940	Straits Settlements	"
941	Cyprus	1916–1917
942	Grenada	"
943	Jamaica	"
944	Somaliland	"
945	Swaziland	"
946	Nigeria	1916
947	Basutoland	1916–1917
948	Gold Coast	1916
949	Ashanti	"
950	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1916–1917

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 989.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1917-18.

(For Report for 1916-17 see No. 951.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

March, 1919.

LONDON:
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No. 989.

BARBADOS.

REPORT ON THE BLUE BOOK FOR 1917–18.*

FINANCIAL.

1. In the year 1917–18:—

	£
The Revenue amounted to	399,969
The Expenditure amounted to	456,303
Excess of Expenditure over Revenue ..	£56,334

The balance of £89,594 to the credit of General Revenue at the close of 1916–17 was reduced to £33,260 on the 31st March, 1918.

2. The Revenue includes loans for purchase and reconstruction of the Barbados Government Railway, temporary loans, and money transferred to General Revenue from the Special Account for War Expenditure, amounting, in all, to £172,346. The Expenditure includes redemption of Debenture Bonds, Gifts to the Mother Country for the prosecution of the War, repayment of temporary loans, War Bonus to Government employees, a Grant for the relief of sufferers from the Halifax explosion, and expenditure incurred on the War, amounting, in all, to £215,754.

Deducting this abnormal Revenue and abnormal Expenditure:—

	£
The normal Revenue amounted to	227,623
The normal Expenditure amounted to ..	240,549
Excess of normal Expenditure over normal Revenue	£12,926

Revenue.

3. The Colonial Revenue increased by £88,856. The increases are mainly due to Excise, Reimbursements-in-Aid, Special Receipts, which include loans for the purchase and reconstruction of the Railway, Waterworks Department, Temporary Loans, Railway, and transfers from the Special Account for War Expenditure. The increase can be therefore attributed to abnormal causes, with the exception of revenue received under the heads of Excise, Waterworks Department, and Railway.

Import duties, the main source of Colonial Revenue, showed a decrease of £12,048 due to decreased importations.

The normal Revenue, £227,623, compares unfavourably with the normal Revenue for 1916–17, namely, £247,113.

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* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 871: [Cd. 7622–62.]

(C536) Wt.1-155. 1,000 & 90. 3.19. B.&F.Ltd. Gp.11 2.

4. Compared with 1916–17 the principal increases in Revenue are as follows:—

	£
Excise	2,130
Reimbursements-in-Aid	11,016
Special Receipts	62,046
Waterworks Department	1,665
Temporary Loans	14,500
Railway	7,894
Special Account	11,552

5. The principal decreases, compared with the previous financial year, are as follows:—

	£
Tonnage	2,255
Import Duties	12,048
Post Office	1,533
Proceeds of Loans for Elementary Schools	6,000

Expenditure.

6. Expenditure increased by £213,698, as compared with the previous year. The principal increases are as follows:—

	£
Prisons	1,532
Medical Department	2,037
Waterworks Department	3,697
Charges of Debt	2,985
Miscellaneous Services	183,868
War Expenditure	11,657
Barbados Government Railway	10,402

The main increase in expenditure, as pointed out in paragraph 2 above, was abnormal expenditure included under the head "Miscellaneous Services."

Increased cost of provisions and clothing, due to the War, necessitated increased expenditure on Government Institutions.

The normal expenditure, £240,549, was £9,401 in excess of the normal expenditure for the financial year 1916–17.

7. There are no decreases in expenditure worthy of comment.

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES.

8. The excess of assets over liabilities, amounting to £30,160 on the 31st March, 1917, decreased to £7,577 at the close of the financial year 1917–18.

PUBLIC DEBT.

9. The Public Debt increased during the year from £473,900 to £538,900, and the Sinking Fund from £140,924 to £150,787.

PAROCHIAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

10. Parochial Revenue amounted to £75,491, and the Expenditure to £76,390, as compared with £70,757 and £66,298 in the year 1916–17.

A sum of £26,279 was expended on poor relief in the Island, representing approximately a charge of 2*s.* 10*d.* per head on the estimated population.

TRADE.

11. The value of imports for the year 1917 reached a total of £2,285,278, an increase of £434,224 over the figure for 1916. Exports, valued at £2,190,114, showed a small decrease of £17,143, as compared with the previous year.

12. The increase in value of imports is mainly attributable to increased value of commodities. A good sugar crop, and continued high prices of sugar and molasses, increased the purchasing power of the community, and rendered importation of articles, at increased cost, practicable. The principal increases in the value of imports are as follows .—

	£
Cotton, other than piece goods	47,812
Flour	35,299
Rice	24,610
Machinery	69,694
Metals, Iron and Steel Manufactures ..	20,552
Seed Cotton	26,807

13. The small decrease in the value of exports can be attributed to a slightly lighter sugar crop. The sugar exported amounted to 51,960 tons, a decrease of 3,496 tons, as compared with the previous year, and the export of molasses, amounting to 9,400,166 gallons, showed a decrease of 415,849 gallons.

The export of rum showed an increase of 5,224 gallons over the year 1916, 104,286 gallons having been exported.

The export of raw cotton showed a decrease of over 85,000 lbs., as compared with the export for 1916. Large profits resulting from the manufacture of sugar induced increased sugar cultivation to the detriment of the cotton industry.

14. The following table sets forth the principal countries of origin of imports for the past two years :—

	1917. £		1916. £
United Kingdom	617,503	..	596,920
Canada	350,602	..	320,011
United States of America ..	843,291	..	624,410

15. The following table gives the percentages of imports from principal countries of origin during the past two years :—

	1917.		1916.
United Kingdom	27	..	32
Canada	15	..	17
United States of America ..	37	..	33

16. The net gain of revenue attributable to the operations of the Preferential Tariff Act amounted to £636. This is the first occasion, since the Act came into operation, that a gain has been recorded to the revenue of the Colony.

EXPORTS.

17. The following table gives the value of the export of produce and manufactures of the Colony, and of other countries :—

	1917. £		1916. £
Colony	1,623,651	..	1,687,888
Other Countries	566,463	..	519,369

18. The following comparative statement gives the value of the principal exports of Colonial produce and manufactures for the past two years:—

	1917.	1916.
	£	£
Bread and Crackers	10,945	6,339
Raw Cotton	6,538	9,845
Fresh Vegetables	4.256	7.416
Sugars (all grades)	1,056,430	1.100,995
Molasses (all grades)	513,845	540,574
Rum	10,862	9,081

19. The following table compares quantity and value of sugar and molasses exported:—

	1917.	1916.
Molasses (choice)—		
Gallons	2,167,170	2,379,741
Value	£112,873	£123,945
Molasses (fancy)—		
Gallons	6,604,410	6,887,387
Value	£385,257	£401,764
Molasses (vacuum pan)—		
Gallons	628,586	548,887
Value	£15,715	£14,865
Sugar (crystals)—		
Tons	34,770	38,192
Value	£695,440	£763,860
Sugar (muscovado)—		
Tons	17,190	17,264
Value	£360,990	£336,448

20. The average prices of sugar during the year were £20 per ton for dark crystals, £25 per ton for white crystals, and £21 per ton for muscovado, as compared with £20, £25, and £19 10*s*., respectively, for 1916.

The prices of molasses averaged 1*s*. 0½*d*., 1*s*. 2*d*., and 6*d*. per gallon for choice, fancy, and vacuum pan grades, as compared with 1*s*. 0½*d*., 1*s*. 2*d*., and 6½*d*. for the previous year.

21. The transit export trade amounted to £566,463, showing an increase of £47,094 over that of the previous year.

22. The following table gives the principal destinations of products exported during 1916-17:—

	1917.	1916.
	£	£
United Kingdom	512,897	226,742
Canada	862,241	1,206,544
United States of America	116,746	141,918
Newfoundland	82,626	76,929

SHIPPING.

23. The number of steamers entered at the Port of Bridgetown in 1917 was 478, with a total net tonnage of 1,121,101 tons, as compared with 547 in 1916, with a tonnage of 1,380,266 tons.

24. The number of sailing vessels entered was 680, with a total net tonnage of 165,165 tons, as compared with 647, tonnage 131,778 tons, in the previous year.

25. Of all shipping entered, 724 were British ships, with a tonnage of 682,219 tons, compared with 803, with a tonnage of 922,865 tons, in 1916.

26. Foreign ships to the number of 434, with tonnage 604,047 tons, as compared with 391, tonnage 589,165 tons, in the previous year, entered in 1917.

27. The vessels coaled amounted to 257, taking 67,074 tons of coal. In 1916, 291 vessels took 82,213 tons of coal.

28. The number of passengers arriving in the Island, exclusive of those in transit, numbered 8,262.

AGRICULTURE.

29. The export of sugar has been set out under its various headings in paragraph 19. The following are the quantities of the exports for the past two years in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto): 1916, 73,581 tons; 1917, 69,367 tons.

The decrease of 4,214 tons below the crop of the previous year was mainly due to lack of rainfall, the area under which the sugar-canes were grown being practically the same as that of the previous year.

30. Owing to the favourable weather conditions that prevailed during 1917, the crop of 1918 is likely to be a good one, and as there is a probability of the high prices that obtained during the previous two years being exceeded, it is expected that the profits of the sugar growers will again be considerably in excess of those for many years previous to the War.

31. The seedling sugar-cane B.6,450, to which reference has been made in previous reports, continues to give excellent results as compared with the White Transparent. The Superintendent of Agriculture reports that two new seedling sugar-canes have recently been obtained, which are under cultivation to a certain extent, namely, B.H.10(12) and Ba.6,032, and have so far given even greater yields than the B.6,450. There are also four newer varieties which the Superintendent considers likely to give very satisfactory results, namely, B.S.F.12(24), B.S.F.12(27), B.S.F.12(34), and B.S.F.12(45).

32. Figures in the Blue Book and the comparative table in paragraph 18 show the value of cotton exported during the calendar year. But the reaping and shipping season for a cotton crop extends from October 1st of one year to September 30th of the following year. The following table gives the comparison by crops and not by calendar years:—

		Crop of 1916–17.	Crop of 1915–16.	Decrease.
Acres ..	.. ..	980	1,078	98 acres
Quantity	.. lbs.	76,296	132,733	56,437
Value ..	.. ..	£8,213	£8,889	£676

As will be seen, the area reaped was 98 acres and the yield 56,437 lb. less than the previous year. The decrease in area is mainly due to the high price of sugar, which has caused a number of cotton growers to turn their attention to this crop in lieu of cotton. The lesser yield is due to several causes; among others may be mentioned the susceptibility of the imported strains of cotton to the attacks of fungoid diseases and insect pests. It may, however, be mentioned that the Department of Agriculture is, by a number of selection experiments, improving both the exotic and indigenous cottons. Samples of these cottons have been submitted to Mr. C. M. Wolstenholme of the firm, of Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland, and to Mr. J. W. McConnel, of Messrs. McConnel & Company, and a member of the Fine Cotton Spinners & Doublers Association, Limited, of Manchester, and the reports of these gentlemen indicate that the cotton is being improved.

33. Owing to the War no shipments of bananas, mangoes, sweet potatoes, or yams have been made to the United Kingdom during the year under review.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

34. The following is the comparison with the previous year:—

	1917.	1916.
Summary convictions	13,884	11,822
Convictions in Superior Courts	121	78

35. In summary convictions there was an increase of 1,062 in "offences against property," and, in convictions in the Superior Courts, an increase of 32, under the same head. The majority of these convictions were for petty praedial and chattel larceny.

36. The percentage of convictions per head of the population for the past two years is as follows:—

1916	6·45
1917	7·5

37. Cane fires, which numbered 160 in 1916, fell to 152 in 1917.

VITAL STATISTICS.

38. The population of Barbados on the 31st of December, 1917, was estimated at 186,656, as compared with 184,259 in the previous year. The estimated proportion of males to females was 80,335 to 106,321.

39. The following table gives the births, deaths, and marriages for the past two years:—

	1917.	1916.
Births	5,378	5,873
Birth-rate per 1,000	28·8	32·2
Deaths	4,648	4,152
Death-rate per 1,000	24·9	22·7
Marriages	713	718

40. Illegitimate births numbered 3,527, or 65·6 per cent. of the total births.

41. The infantile death-rate of children under the age of one year was 289 per 1,000, compared with 242 per 1,000 in 1916, and 193 per 1,000 in 1915.

GOVERNMENT INSTITUTIONS.

42. The Barbados General Hospital, under the management of a Court of Directors consisting of two life members, and others who are either Government Officers or Members of the Legislature, is maintained by a Government grant.

43. The principal statistics for the past two years are as follows:—

	Daily average of patients.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Out-patients.
1916	143	2,442	189	37,118
1917	160	2,850	230	32,599

44. The following table gives the principal statistics for the Lazaretto for the past two years:—

	Average daily resident.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Average stay of those who died.
1916	134	22	8	9·3 years
1917	149	26	14	10·5 "

45. The following table gives the principal statistics for the Lunatic Asylum:—

	Average daily resident.	Admissions.	Deaths.	Discharges.
1916	375	106	55	46
1917	400	83	36	44

46. Continued beneficial results were obtained in the case of Pellagra patients, a special diet having been instituted for their treatment.

47. At Glendairy Prison the daily average rose to 367·58, as compared with 279 in 1916. The number of prisoners committed to penal imprisonment amounted to 2,334, an increase of 275 as compared with the previous year. The discipline of the Prison was satisfactory.

48. There was one execution. It is worthy of comment that this execution was the first that has taken place in the Colony since the year 1899.

49. The average daily number at the Industrial School for Boys was 165, as compared with 164 in the previous year. The figure for the Girls' Industrial School was 59, a decrease of 1, as compared with the previous year.

50. The expenditure on the Boys' School amounted to £3,677, and the receipts to £3,653. Useful practical education is given at both the Girls' and Boys' Industrial Schools. The boys, in addition to receiving an elementary education, receive instruction in agricultural work, and as tailors, masons, and carpenters. The girls receive instruction in agricultural field work, gardening, laundry work, sewing, and cooking. The expenditure on the Girls Industrial School amounted to £1,129 during the year.

51. The deposits in the Savings Bank during the financial year 1917–18, amounted to £262,270, an increase of £7,480 as compared with the previous year, and the withdrawals to £250,662, a decrease of £23,794 on the year 1916–17.

52. The number of depositors has decreased during the four years of war from 11·5 per cent. of the population to 6·8 per cent., but the

average individual deposit has increased from £20 8*s.* 5*d.* to £37 11*s.* 7*d.*, between the years 1915 and 1918.

POST OFFICE.

53. The following statement shows Revenue and Expenditure for the past two years:—

	1916.		1917.
	£		£
Revenue..	8,463	..	6,786
Expenditure	8,146	..	7,805

The decrease is due, principally, to a decrease in the sale of stamps.

54. A sum of £75,639 was paid in Money Orders in the Colony. £39,142 of this amount was remitted from the United States of America, mainly by Barbadians who had emigrated to obtain employment in that country.

EDUCATION.

55. The total expenditure under this head amounted to £22,266 1*s.* 9*d.*, an increase of £836 on the previous year.

56. Codrington College, founded in 1745, and affiliated to Durham University in 1875, had 20 scholars on the roll at the close of 1917, a similar number to the previous year. The Legislature votes four Island Scholarships of the value of £40 per annum each, and tenable for two years, to the College.

57. The Rawle Training Institute, for the training of elementary school teachers, which owes its existence to the liberality of the Revd. A. H. Anstey, Principal of Codrington College, had 6 male and 6 female teachers under training during the year.

58. At the principal higher grade schools, the following numbers were on the roll:—

	No. of pupils on rolls.
Boys (First Grade)—	
Harrison College	157
The Lodge School	83
Boys (Second Grade)—	
Combermere School	189
Other Schools	155
Girls (First Grade)—	
Queen's College	70

59. The number of primary schools, including the three Ragged Schools, was 145, with 22,307 children on the rolls, and an average attendance of 12,577.

The total Government grant for elementary education was £14,520 9*s.* 11*d.*, and a grant was also made from parochial funds, amounting to £1,025.

60. Provision exists for an annual scholarship, known as the "Barbados Scholarship," open to boys and girls, of the value of £175 per annum, tenable for four years at one of the Universities of Europe or Canada, or at any agricultural or technical college in Europe or America, which may be approved by the Education Board.

In January, 1917, the Honourable T. E. Fell, Colonial Secretary, was appointed President of the Education Board in place of the late Right Reverend W. P. Swaby, Bishop of Barbados and the Windward Islands, and Archbishop of the West Indies.

GENERAL REMARKS.

61. The following are the principal sums collected in the Colony on behalf of War Charities from the commencement of the War to the close of 1917 :—

	£
Belgian Relief Fund	3,239
Prince of Wales' Fund	4,334
Queen Mary's Fund	1,966
British Red Cross and Order of St. John of Jerusalem	3,062
French Red Cross	980
Motor Ambulance Fund	5,785
Tobacco Funds	102
W.I. Contingent Fund Flag Day (Comforts for Soldiers)	523
Lord Roberts' Memorial Fund	100
Star & Garter Fund	2,000
Lady Jellicoe's Fund for Widows and Orphans of Sailors	186
The Pearson Institute	50

The above does not include contributions from the Colony to the Imperial Treasury, which now amount to £100,000.

62. A contingent of the British West Indies Regiment, for which the necessary funds for transport, equipment, separation allowances, and disability pensions, were voted by the Legislature, proceeded on active service during the year. Recruits were readily forthcoming.

63. The "Citizens' Contingent" Committee, supported by voluntary contributions, continued its activities in sending to England men desirous of enlisting into British Regiments.

64. The entry of our great ally, the United States of America, into the War, necessitated the conservation of food supplies, for the importation of which Barbados is largely dependent on the United States of America. Satisfactory arrangements were made for the importation of specified allowances sufficient for local requirements, and importation into the Colony of most essential foodstuffs from the United States of America has since been controlled by a local "Food Control Committee." The Colony, at no time during the year, has experienced an actual shortage of essential food supplies.

65. The planting of ground provisions during the War, was enforced by statute, the area to be planted, and the control of reaping and sale being left to a Committee appointed under the Vegetable Produce Act. This wise measure has resulted in the supply of local provisions for the population being increased during the year.

66. Continued high prices of sugar and molasses and a good crop resulted in substantial benefit to the estate owners of the Colony.

Profits have been largely applied to the erection of improved sugar machinery and to general estate improvement, calculated to ensure in the future the more scientific and economical management of the industry. Land increased largely in value, having changed hands in some instances at as high a figure as £140 per arable acre.

67. A gift of £20,000 to the Imperial Government towards the prosecution of the War was voted by the Legislature, and the Colony again recorded its determination to assist towards prosecuting the War to a victorious end, in a Resolution passed by the House of Assembly, on the 4th of August, 1917.

T. E. FELL,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados.
16th December, 1918.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year
956	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1916
957	British Honduras	"
958	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1916-1917
959	Cayman Islands	"
960	Bermuda	1916
961	Mauritius	"
962	Ashanti	1917
963	Falkland Islands	"
964	Seychelles	"
965	Weihaiwei	"
966	Fiji	"
967	Solomon Islands	1917-1918
968	Grenada	"
969	Turks and Caicos Islands	1917
970	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
971	Ceylon	"
972	Hong Kong	"
973	Zanzibar	"
974	St. Helena	"
975	Malta	1917-1918
976	British Guiana	1917
977	St. Vincent	1917-1918
978	Bahamas	"
979	Gambia	1917
980	Jamaica	1917-1918
981	Gibraltar	1917
982	Bermuda	"
983	Swaziland	1917-1918
984	Trinidad	1917
985	Mauritius	"
986	Cyprus	1917-1918
987	Bechuanaland Protectorate	"
988	East Africa Protectorate	1916-1917

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907-8 and 1908-9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908-9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta Percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.

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No. 1035.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1918-19.

(For Report for 1917–18 see No. 989.)

Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty.
May, 1920.

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No. 1035.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1918–1919.*

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North, and longitude 59° 37′ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of nearly two to the acre. In size it is therefore comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras—in climate to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them "Los Barbados" on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship "Olive Blossom" in the name of King James I.

4. James I. granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough, and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonise the Island. Some 30 settlers landed on the leeward coast, and founded Holetown.

5. Charles I., in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of preoccupation against Lord Carlisle, and, under this last grant, the "Leeward" settlers at Holetown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's "Windward" settlers who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados, and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the Island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the Government when the Commonwealth was established, though many royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should

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* A Sketch Map will be found in the Report for 1914–15, No. 871: [Cd. 7622–62.]

receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim, and the heirs of Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a 4½ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the Island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the Colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary and Attorney General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with 1 member of the Legislative Council, and 4 members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor.

II.—CLIMATE.

16. Barbados is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronized by the residents in neighbouring Colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito is not found in the Island.

18. The temperature throughout the year varies, as a rule, from 74° to 84° Fahrenheit.

19. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and, between November and May the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° Fahrenheit.

20. The winter months are regarded as the " Tourist Season."

21. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage.

22. The " hurricane months." are July to October.

23. On the 21st August, 1918, there was what is locally termed a " blow " which fortunately lasted only a few minutes. In those few minutes, however, damage to the extent of some £6,000 to £7,000 was done, mostly to the somewhat unsubstantial houses of the lower classes.

24. Relief measures were undertaken by the Government, and the havoc was repaired without serious loss to the sufferers. The

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Government received great assistance from the Vestries of the several parishes, in the work of administering relief and carrying out repairs.

25. Meteorological records for 1918 show that the average maximum temperature was 86·6°. The highest temperature for the year was 88·1°, recorded on three dates, the 17th May, the 7th September, and 10th October, and the lowest, 64·8°, on the 11th February, 1918.

26. The rainfall was 50·07 inches, which was ·61 inches under the average for the previous five years.

III.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

27. No event of special importance affecting the social and general conditions of life in the Colony occurred in 1918.

28. Barbados is a sugar growing community, and, as such, has undoubtedly benefitted during the War by the comparatively good prices which producers have obtained for sugar and molasses.

29. In 1916 and 1917 both crops and prices were good. In 1918 the crop was comparatively short, and, though there was a slight increase in the price of sugar and syrup, this increase in value did not bring the total receipts up to the 1916 and 1917 figures.

30. Though the planters argue, with some justification, that they have only received due compensation for the many lean years before the War, during which they struggled with adversity and German subsidised beet sugar, it is a fact that the series of good crops and high prices have brought them greatly increased prosperity, with the result that many estates have been freed of debt, and machinery and appliances in sugar factories have been generally improved.

31. Importation of machinery was, however, regulated by a Priority Committee whose reports were sent to the Ministry of Munitions in London.

32. The mercantile community who, with the planters and the labouring classes, compose the social fabric of the Colony have reaped the benefit of increased purchasing power.

33. At the same time there has been a marked increase in the cost of living in Barbados as elsewhere.

34. The majority of the population is largely dependent for food upon imported flour, rice, cornmeal, salt fish, salt meat, lard and its compounds, and the world-wide rise in the price of these commodities, and also in the price of calicoes and clothing essentials for the people together with the rise in freights, bore heavily upon all sections of the community.

35. The Vegetable Produce Act compelling owners to devote a certain acreage to the growing of vegetables, corn, etc., did something towards easing the cost of living to the labourer by providing more home-grown provisions, and lessening the demand for expensive imported cereals.

36. The general rise in prices entailed a considerable increase in the cost of Government Departments, and institutions.

37. For instance, practically the whole water supply of the Island being dependent on pumping, the cost of coal sent up the expenditure on the Waterworks Department. The provision of a war bonus for junior Government officials and other "war" expenditure were further charges upon revenue, so much so that, by the 31st of March, 1918, the

Legislature recognising the need for increased taxation, unanimously passed an address to the Governor recommending the imposition of a graduated income tax in place of the Produce Tax (or Export Tax) on sugar and molasses.

38. As the year progressed, however, the Customs receipts were found to exceed all expectations. Both import and export duties showed increases, though the increase in the former cannot be attributed solely to increased importation, since the enhanced value of the goods imported affected the receipts from *ad valorem* duties.

39. In view of the improved financial outlook, the Legislature, in the autumn of 1918, preferred the temporary renewal of the Produce Tax—now £1 per ton on sugar, and 6*s*. 8*d*. per 100 gallons on molasses—until the end of 1919 to the imposition of an income tax.

40. A special tax on traders which was estimated to yield £15,000 was further imposed.

41. Such were the temporary measures taken to finance the Colony in 1918, but it is moderately safe to assume that the imposition of an income tax in Barbados is a measure which cannot be much longer delayed.

42. There is no system of Government emigration. Agents under Government licence work at engaging labour recruits for neighbouring Colonies and for countries not under British rule.

43. Any labourers so recruited for service in countries other than British enter into a contract with the agent which must be signed before a magistrate. The contracts are approved by the Government, and contain clauses regulating the hours of work, the pay and accommodation, and providing for the repatriation (if so demanded) of the labourers.

44. Emigration of individuals to Canada and the United States of America, which was formerly considerable, practically ceased during the War.

45. The number of immigrants was, as usual, entirely negligible. The Barbadian who leaves his island, does so, with the intention of returning as soon as he has made enough money, and there is therefore little or no room for strangers. The departures in 1918 numbered 5,013, and the arrivals 8,209.

46. The vital statistics for 1918 show :—The estimated population on December 31st, 1918, 191,664 ; the birth-rate for the year, 30·2 ; the death-rate, 20·6, and the infantile mortality, 205 per 1,000 births.

47. The public health was on the whole good. There were no epidemics of a serious nature, although here and there sickness was more prevalent than in normal years. Local outbreaks of dysentery, and typhoid fever occurred, but the pandemic of influenza touched Barbados comparatively lightly. Greater attention was paid to sanitation in which, however, much that is desirable still remains to be done. The population is becoming more enlightened generally as to what is most necessary, and improvement in the sanitary condition of the dwellings of the people is reported, particularly in the destruction of mosquito larvae, and the disposal of human excreta. Ankylostomiasis occurs throughout the Island, one small district being heavily infected, and the education of the masses in the necessity for avoiding soil pollution must be pursued unremittingly.

IV.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

48. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the past five years are as follows:—

	Revenue £	Expenditure £
1914–15	223,091	236,795
1915–16	212,484	227,009
1916–17	311,303	242,605
1917–18	399,969	456,303
1918–19	347,497	347,817

49. The public debt on 31st March, 1919, was £530,000 and the sinking fund to redeem it, £160,988.

50. There have been no important changes in taxation during 1918.

51. STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON THE 31st MARCH, 1919.

ASSETS.

	£	s.	d.
Balance to credit of General Revenue at 31st March, 1919	32,940	4	1
Uncollected Police Tax	112	10	2
Uncollected Water Rates	2,129	16	2
Balance of Liabilities in excess of Assets	12,553	11	5½
	£47,736	1	10½

LIABILITIES.

	£	s.	d.
Accounts unpaid at 31st March, 1919 ..	17,736	1	10½
Loan from Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank	20,000	0	0
Balance of amount borrowed from Railway Reconstruction	10,000	0	0
	£47,736	1	10½

V.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

IMPORTS. (a).

52. The following table shews the value of imports from the United Kingdom, the Colonies, and elsewhere for the past five years.

	From U.K.	From British Colonies.	From elsewhere.	Total.
1914	£495,096	£361,469	£443,508	£1,300,073
1915	441,449	358,426	470,279	1,270,154
1916	596,920	577,828	676,054	1,851,054
1917	617,503	710,653	957,122	2,285,278
1918	597,571	1,118,248	1,270,187	2,986,006

53. The total value of the imports in 1918 thus exceeded the figures for 1917 by £700,728. The following comparative table shows the sources of import and the percentages from each source for the two years.

	1918.	1917.
From the United Kingdom	20%	27%
„ Canada	16%	15¼%
„ British Possessions (including India)	21½%	15½%
„ United States of America	35%	37%
„ Other countries	7½%	5¼%
	100%	100%

54. From the above it will be observed that there was a decrease of imports from the United Kingdom of 7 per cent., an increase from Canada of ¾ per cent., and from British possessions, including India, of 6 per cent. The United States shewed a decrease of 2 per cent., and other countries an increase of 2¼ per cent. The decrease from the United Kingdom was principally due to the difficulty of obtaining machinery for sugar factories owing to the War.

55. The principal foreign countries shewing increases were Dutch West Indies, Brazil, Venezuela, French West Indies and Peru, from which the following were imported :—

Dutch West Indies ..	Raw Manure
Brazil	Cotton thread, bran, and farina
Venezuela	Cattle (for food), corn
French West Indies ..	Cotton seed
Peru	Chemical manure.

56. *Foodstuffs*—The importation of *arrowroot* from the British West Indies fell off by 174,000 lb.

57. *Cornmeal*—from the United States shewed a decrease of 2½ million lb., due to restriction of exportation.

58. *Rice*—shewed a decrease of 430,000 lb., there being an increase from India of 427,000 lb. in spite of restrictions, and a decrease from British Guiana of 840,000 lb. due to prohibition of exportation.

EXPORTS.—(b).

59. The following table shews the values of exports to the United Kingdom, the Colonies and elsewhere for the past five years.

	To United Kingdom.	To British Colonies.	To elsewhere.	Total.
1914	£50,220	£684,073	£180,806	£915,099
1915	56,419	889,024	236,543	1,181,986
1916	232,280	1,562,326	412,651	2,207,257
1917	512,897	1,214,532	462,685	2,190,114*
1918	479,346	1,428,332	572,968	2,480,646*

* Includes bunker coal supplied to vessels—1917, £251,527; 1918, £257,802.

60. Thus the total value of the exports for 1918 exceeded those for 1917 by £290,532.

61. *Sugar*—33,207 tons, value £687,453 were exported in 1918 as against 51,960 tons, value £1,056,430 in 1917, showing a decrease of 18,753 tons, value £368,977.

62. *Molasses*—10,683,609 gallons, value £875,396 were exported in 1918, as against 9,400,166 gallons, value £513,845, in 1917, showing an increase of 1,283,443 gallons, value £361,551.

63. So that although the crop for 1918 was smaller than that for 1917, the value of it was only £7,426 less.

64. The relative value of molasses to that of sugar, was greater to the planter, consequently there was an increase in the manufacture of molasses and a decrease in sugar.

65. *Cotton* (*raw*)—188,363 lb., value £37,673 were exported in 1918, as against 52,304 lb., value £6,538, in 1917, an increase of 136,059 lb., value £31,135.

66. The greater demand for cotton due to the War, caused an increased output.

67. *Rum*—45,268 gallons, value £5,659, were exported in 1918, as against 104,286 gallons, value £10,862, in 1917, a decrease of 59,018 gallons, value £5,203, due to a lesser demand for war purposes.

68. *Minor products*—The only commodities worthy of notice are *bread and biscuits*, made locally, *fresh vegetables*, and *tamarinds*.

Bread and Biscuits 161,150 lb., value £3,223, were exported in 1918, as against 656,790 lb., value £10,945, in 1917, a decrease of 495,640 lb., value £7,722.

Fresh vegetables to the value of £6,830 were exported in 1918, as against £4,256 in 1917, an increase of £2,574 in value. The quantities are not obtainable.

Tamarinds to the value of £3,755 were exported in 1918, as against £3,811 in 1917, a small decrease of £56. The quantities are not obtainable.

AGRICULTURE.—(c).

69. There is practically no Government land in Barbados, and almost every yard of suitable ground is devoted by its owner to the cultivation of sugar or cotton. The fact that the production of these crops has proved highly remunerative in recent years, gave rise to the Vegetable Produce Act mentioned in Section III above.

70. Agricultural land, when indeed, any came into the market during 1918, fetched a very high price—an average of £88 per acre.

71. The export of sugar has been set out under its various headings in Section V(b). The following table gives a comprehensive comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years.

1914	53,568 tons
1915	39,803 ,,
1916	73,581 ,,
1917	69,367 ,,
1918	57,191 ,,

71. The decrease of 12,176 tons below the crop of the previous year was mainly due to lack of rainfall towards the close of the year, and the beginning of 1918. The rainfall for November being nearly 50 per cent. short of the average for many years.

72. Owing to the very unfortunate weather conditions which prevailed during 1919, the crop of 1920 is not likely to be an average one, but as there is a probability of very high prices prevailing it is expected that the profits of the sugar growers will again be considerable and will greatly exceed those for many years previous to the War.

73. The seedling sugar canes Ba. 6032 and B.H. 10 (12), which were mentioned in the annual reports for the past two years, continue to give excellent results as compared with the White Transparent and B. 6450, which are at present used, in comparison with the better varieties. The Director of Agriculture reports that the average yields of these varieties over large areas has lately exceeded those of the White Transparent by considerable amounts, in the case of the former by 6·86 tons of canes, and in the case of the latter, 6·68 tons. As compared with the B. 6450, the Ba. 6032 gave 5·9 tons of canes more, and the B.H. 10 (12) 5·72 tons of canes more an acre than that cane. He also reports that for the past six years on the experiment plots in the same fields and under the same conditions, the B.H. 10 (12) has given 60·7 per cent. on the average, more an acre, than the White Transparent, and 27·1 per cent. more than the B. 6450; also that the Ba. 6032 has, for the past five years under similar conditions, given 49·5 per cent. more than the White Transparent, and 12·7 per cent. more than the B. 6450.

74. Of the four newer varieties considered last year likely to give satisfactory results the B.S.F. 12 (27) is the most promising. There is another sugar cane, namely the Ba. 11569, which at the present time is giving high yields in several districts of the Island. The Director of Agriculture also reports that owing to the attacks of the Root-borer (*Diaprepes abbreviatus*), and the Brownhardback (*Phytalus smithi*), the majority of the sugar cane experiments that were carried out for the year 1917–1919 were practically valueless. At the present time the numbers of these pests vary greatly in the plots on which different manures have been applied and on which the different varieties of the seedling sugar cane were grown. The numbers in the case of the manurial experiments vary from 3,086 to 9,378 an acre, and in the case of the varieties, from 1,161 to 32,285 an acre. Owing to the attacks of these pests His Excellency the Governor appointed a Commission to enquire into, and to advise what measures should be adopted to control or eradicate them. At the end of the year under review the Commissioners had not yet reported.

75. The following table gives the comparison of the cotton crops by the crops and not by the calendar years :—

		Crop of 1917–18.	Crop of 1916–17.	Increase.
Acres		1,337	980	
Quantity	lb.	192,541	76,296	116,24
Value	£	28,949	8,213	20,736

76. As will be seen the area reaped was 357 acres, and the yield 116,245 lb., more than the previous year. Owing to the very high price of cotton due to the War, something like 100 per cent. on pre-war prices, the area under cotton exceeded that of the previous year by nearly 36 per cent. For the same reason the value of the cotton greatly exceeds that of the previous year.

77. It may be mentioned that the Barbados Department of Agriculture has for some time, been improving the exotic and indigenous cottons by selection and hybridisation, and that the Government has sanctioned the planting of twenty acres of the improved exotic cotton, which it is thought will be sufficient to furnish seed of a good strain for planting the area it is estimated will be grown during the season 1919-1920.

78. Towards the end of 1918, negotiations were in progress with the Anglo Saxon Petroleum Company, Limited, who were desirous of establishing a fuel oil supply station for ships in Carlisle Bay. These negotiations have subsequently fallen through.

VI.—BANKS.

79. There are two Banks doing business in Barbados, the Colonial Bank with a paid up capital of £850,000, and the Royal Bank of Canada with a paid up capital of £3,196,660.

80. The Colonial Bank has a note circulation (five dollar notes) of £350,000. In Barbados the estimated circulation is £50,000.

81. There is a Government Savings Bank, which had, on 31st December, 1918, 12,329 depositors, and deposits amounting to £265,890.

82. The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was formed in 1907, in circumstances and for objects set forth below.

83. In the year 1902 a sum of £250,000 was granted by the Imperial Parliament in aid of the sugar industry of the West Indies and British Guiana, of which the sum of £80,000 was allocated to Barbados. Just about this time, the sugar planters were finding it exceedingly difficult to obtain advances from the Colonial Bank to enable them to keep their estates in cultivation, as many of these planters had not been able to repay the loans made them on their crops, owing to the very low price for which their produce had been selling.

84. The local Government therefore considered that the best way to utilise the grant of £80,000 was to keep it intact as a reserve fund on which to raise the necessary money for working the plantations, and thereby providing employment for the agricultural labourers of the Island.

85. An Act called "The Plantations in Aid Act" 1902, was passed to carry out the above-mentioned object, and this Act proved so beneficial to the planters that it was renewed each year until the year 1906; after which it was decided to rest the original grant of £80,000 with all the accretions of interest that had been made during the years 1902–1906 in a bank to be styled "The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank," which bank was to be conducted by seven persons who would form the board of management, the chairman being the Colonial Secretary for the time being, four members being appointed by the House of Assembly

annually, one by the Legislative Council, and one by the Agricultural Society.

86. The amount loaned for the year 1st June, 1918, to 31st May, 1919, was £350,994, which sum was loaned to 144 different owners. The profit arising from these transactions came to £4,120 10*s*. 8½*d*.

87. The total funds of the Bank, at 31st May, 1919, amounted to £140,703 18*s*. 2*d*.

VII.—LEGISLATION.

88. The only acts of interest outside the Colony which were passed by the Legislature during the year were:—

No. 2. *The Requisition Act*, 1918, authorising the Governor to requisition goods for the use of His Majesty's Government. The Act was due to the decision of the Imperial Government to requisition all sea island cotton produced in the British West Indies.

No. 5. *The Explosives Act*, 1918, prohibiting the importation into the Colony, except under license of any explosive, except gunpowder, percussion caps, etc., and explosives specially exempted by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

No. 25. *The Trade* (*Amendment*) *Act*, 1918, authorising the Governor to have plants, seeds, etc., which may be brought to the Island, examined on board ship, and if found infected with any disease or pest, to prohibit them from being landed.

VIII.—EDUCATION.

89. For local convenience the schools of the Colony are divided into three classes:—Elementary, second-grade and first-grade. The elementary school corresponds in most details to the English schools of this type and the education given in the first and second-grade schools corresponds to English secondary education.

90. There are no Government schools as this term is understood. There is a central administrative Board, but each elementary school is under a local committee consisting of the minister of the district and two laymen appointed annually by the Central Board. Each first and second-grade school is under the authority of a governing body, constituted in accordance with schemes framed by the Central Board.

91. Education is not compulsory. There are no continuation schools or classes, nor is any provision made for technical or industrial education.

92. At the beginning of 1918 there were 141 elementary schools in operation, but before the close of the year this number was reduced to 139 by the closing of two small infant schools. In addition to these, there were three ragged schools which provide the elements of knowledge for very poor children who are unable to attend the ordinary elementary school.

93. During 1918, the number of pupils on the registers, exclusive of the three ragged schools, was 20,327 and the average daily attendance was 11,802. The pressure of economic conditions has caused a decline in the attendance, but with the return of normal conditions

there will doubtless be an improvement. The large majority of the children attending these schools belong to the agricultural class, and only a small percentage goes beyond Standard IV. This standard is equivalent to the factory standard recognised in countries in which compulsory education exists.

94. The children who reach the higher standards are sufficiently intelligent to benefit by vocational training and would make excellent material for technical and industrial courses.

95. By means of exhibitions the elementary schools are linked up with the first and second-grade schools, and winners of these exhibitions have eventually won scholarships tenable at English Universities.

96. To a moderate extent, provision is made in the elementary schools for manual instruction.

97. The cost of elementary education during 1918, including the training of teachers and the upkeep of buildings was £17,438 ; of this sum £16,413 was provided by the Central Government and £1,025 by the parochial authorities.

98. The number of second-grade schools was the same as during the past several years : five for boys and one for girls.

99. The curriculum in these schools embraces English, Mathematics, Latin, French, Spanish, and commercial subjects. The upper forms are entered for the Cambridge Local Junior and Senior Examinations, and the students acquit themselves very creditably. Pupils who leave these schools find no difficulty in obtaining work in mercantile offices and in banks. Some become teachers, while others secure employment on sugar estates.

100. Cadet companies, and Scout troops exist in connection with some of these boys' schools, and the training given has produced satisfactory results.

101. The cost of second-grade education, inclusive of exhibitions, was £1,513 during 1918, and the attendance during the year was 371.

102. The number of first-grade schools was three—two for boys, and one for girls.

103. The range of work in the two first-grade schools for boys, extends from elementary instruction in the Preparatory Form, to the level of open scholarships at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

104. The Fourth Form is entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination and the Fifth and Sixth Forms for the Oxford and Cambridge Lower and Higher Certificate Examinations, and the results are, in general, satisfactory. A scholarship called the " Barbados Scholarship " is annually competed for by the boys of these two schools. This Scholarship is tenable for four years at any University or College in Europe or Canada. In 1918 this Scholarship was awarded to a classical candidate in accordance with the recommendation of the Examiners appointed by the Cambridge Syndicate.

105. The range of the work in the girls' first-grade school extends from elementary instruction to the level required for the Senior Cambridge Local and the London University Examinations. Girls are also prepared for the South Kensington and Ablett Drawing Examinations. The progress made by all these schools is satisfactory and they afford a liberal education for the boys and girls of the Colony.

106. Flourishing Cadet companies exist in connection with the two boys' schools, and a girls' Guide troop has recently been started in connection with the girls' school.

107. The cost of first-grade education during 1918 was £2,351 and the number of pupils in attendance was 382.

108. University education is also obtainable in the Colony. Codrington College, founded early in the 18th century, is affiliated to the University of Durham. This College receives no financial aid from the Government beyond the 4 Island Scholarships which are tenable there. The number of students in attendance during 1918 was 14.

IX.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) EXTERNAL.

109. The contract for a regular fortnightly mail service to and from the United Kingdom which had previously been supplied by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company was abandoned during the War and not resumed during 1918.

110. A regular service with Canada was maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, calling at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, the Southern Islands, and British Guiana.

111. The following steamship lines carried mails during 1918:—

The regular lines—not sailing on scheduled dates—were, from the United Kingdom: "Direct" from London, "Harrison," and "Leyland" from Liverpool, and the "Glasgow" line from Glasgow.

From the United States of America to Northern Islands, Barbados, and British Guiana, "Quebec" S.S. Line.

"Lamport and Holt" and "Booth" steamers called here irregularly on the routes to and from the United States, and Brazil. The "La Veloce," an Italian line from Mediterranean Ports to and from Colon.

112. The length of passage from the United Kingdom is 15 to 17 days, from Halifax and New York 10 days (not direct) and 7½ days (direct) respectively.

113. Communication with the other West Indian Islands is also maintained by sailing vessels at irregular intervals.

The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships which entered the port of Bridgetown during the year 1918.

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
390	932,155	725	117,844	1,115	1,049,999

114. As compared with 1917, 43 vessels less entered the port with an aggregate tonnage of 236,267 net tons. A decrease of 88 steamers, and an increase of 45 sailing vessels.

115. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at Barbados, and direct cable communication with St. Vincent, and thence to the other West Indies, America, and Europe. The Company receives an annual subsidy of £1,500 from Barbados.

116. There is also a small Government Wireless Telegraph Station erected during the War as a war station and utilised since the signing of the Armistice for ship to shore and shore to ship commercial traffic.

(b) INTERNAL.

117. The Barbados Government Railway has 28 miles of line from Bridgetown to St. Andrew.

118. The gauge is 2 feet 6 inches and £20,000 has been spent on the reconstruction of the line since its purchase by the Government in 1916, to date.

119. The line, however, follows the coast for the greater part of its course, and most of the produce of the Island is consequently conveyed to the port by road, and not by rail.

120. There is an elaborate system of roads throughout the Island, 473 miles of road being suitable to motor vehicles ; the wear and tear on the roads is however very heavy, and their present condition leaves much to be desired.

121. A private tramway company maintains a service of mule drawn tramway cars throughout Bridgetown and suburbs.

122. There is no telegraph line in Barbados but telephonic communication is maintained by the Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, a private company, with 1,057 services and about 2,401 miles of line in use.

123. *Post Office.*—Number of offices : 1 in town, and 10 in the country ; deliveries, 4 town, and 1 country daily. Money Order Offices : 6.

FRANCIS JENKINS,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados.
18th March, 1920.

COLONIAL REPORTS, &c.

The following recent reports, &c., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	Colony, &c.	Year.
1001	Hong Kong	1918
1002	Somaliland	1917–1918
1003	Cayman Islands	,,
1004	Malta	,,
1005	Seychelles	1918
1006	Fiji	,,
1007	Ceylon	,,
1008	Nigeria	1917
1009	Turks and Caicos Islands	1918
1010	St. Helena	,,
1011	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	,,
1012	Ashanti	,,
1013	East Africa Protectorate	1917–1918
1014	British Guiana	1918
1015	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1918–1919
1016	Basutoland	,,
1017	Falkland Islands	1918
1018	Trinidad	,,
1019	Bermuda	,,
1020	Swaziland	1917–1918
1021	Somaliland	1918–1919
1022	Gibraltar	1918
1023	Grenada	1918–1919
1024	Jamaica	,,
1025	Cyprus	,,
1026	British Honduras	1918
1027	British Solomon Islands	1918–1919
1028	Straits Settlements	1918
1029	Gold Coast	,,
1030	Nigeria	,,
1031	Leeward Islands	1918–1919
1032	Sierra Leone	1918
1033	Bahamas	1918–1919
1034	Gambia	1918

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	Colony, &c.	Subject.
79	Northern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1907–8 and 1908–9.
80	Nyasaland	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
81	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1908–9.
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, &c.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, &c.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement

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No. 1072.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1919-20.

(For Report for 1918-19 see No. 1035.)

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No. 1072.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT

FOR

1919-1920.

1.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North, and longitude 59° 37′ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 1,200 to the square mile or nearly two to the acre. In size it is therefore comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras—in climate to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them "Los Barbados" on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship "Olive Blossom" in the name of King James I.

4. James I. granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonise the Island. Some 30 settlers landed on the leeward coast and founded Holetown.

5. Charles I., in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of preoccupation against Lord Carlisle, and, under this last grant, the "Leeward" settlers at Holetown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's "Windward" settlers who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados, and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the Island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the Government

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when the Commonwealth was established, though many royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim, and the heirs to Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a 4½ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the Island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the Colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor.

II.—CLIMATE.

16. Barbados is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by the residents in neighbouring Colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito is not found in the Island.

18. The temperature throughout the year varies, as a rule, from 74° to 84° Fahrenheit.

19. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and between November and May the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° Fahrenheit.

20. The winter months are regarded as the " Tourist Season."

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21. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage.

22. The "hurricane months" are July to October.

23. On 21st August, 1918, there was what is locally termed a "blow" which fortunately lasted only a few minutes. In those few minutes, however, damage to the extent of some £6,000 to £7,000 was done, mostly to the somewhat unsubstantial houses of the poorer classes.

24. Barbados experienced no abnormal weather during the year covered by this report with the exception of a very heavy rainfall on one day, 25th August, 1919.

25. On that day over eight inches of rain fell in Bridgetown and the neighbourhood, swelling the water-courses and doing considerable damage to property and live stock. Fortunately only one human life was lost.

26. Meteorological records for 1919 show that the average maximum temperature was 87·5°. The highest temperature for the year was 91·1°, recorded on 24th August, and the lowest 63°, on 25th January, 1919.

27. The rainfall was 42·35 inches, which was 9·11 inches under the average for the previous five years.

III.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

28. The prosperity of Barbados is mainly dependent upon agriculture, and nowhere are the readings of the rain gauge studied with deeper interest by everyone, no matter whether he be directly engaged in the planting industry or otherwise.

29. The main crop is sugar cane. The cultivation of cotton is a subsidiary industry, but the raising of a sufficient quantity of vegetables for a crowded population and of green fodder for the stock is always a matter of vital concern and especially so in days when high prices and enhanced freight rates have sent up the cost of all imported foodstuffs.

30. As regards the sugar crop, it was noticed in last year's report that the rainfall in 1918 was slightly under the average for the previous five years. But, in spite of this, the rains which fell in August, September, October and November, 1918, the months in which the sugar canes make the most growth, were heavier by some seven inches than in the corresponding months of 1917.

31. This fact and the inducement of high prices for sugar having led to the planting of a greater acreage in canes made the crop of 1919 a distinctly good one. The amount of sugar and fancy molasses exported in 1919 exceeded the figures for 1918 by 12,437 tons in quantity and £553,163 in value.

32. A glance at the rainfall figures given in paragraph 27 above does not, however, encourage the hope of a heavy crop in 1920-21, and weather conditions in 1920 make the outlook for 1921-22 less hopeful still.

33. The high prices to be obtained for cotton also led to an increased area being planted in this crop in 1919.

34. Nevertheless the Vegetable Produce Act, which had been in force in 1918, compelling owners to devote a certain acreage to the growing of vegetables, corn, etc., was not renewed by the Legislature when it expired on the 31st March, 1919, the view being held that legislation was unnecessary and that sufficient quantities of vegetables would always be grown without compulsion in the ordinary course of rotation of crops.

35. Subsequent experience, however, scarcely bore out such anticipations, and the Vegetable Produce Act has been re-enacted and is once more in force at the time of writing this report, though whether it will effect all in practice which can be claimed for it in theory is a debatable question, as it is one thing to compel agriculturists to plant a crop and another to make it grow in adverse weather conditions.

36. The cost of living in the Island rose again during 1919 above what it was in the preceding year and bore heavily upon the middle and labouring classes. Some increase in salaries and wages followed, but it has not been such as to allow the large majority of the people to live in a pre-war standard of comfort.

37. The rate of temporary increase given to Government employees varies from 25 per cent. in the higher paid posts to 45 per cent. in the lower.

38. There were no strikes or labour troubles during the year.

39. The financial year opened on the 1st April, 1919, with a balance to the credit of the General Revenue of the Colony of £32,940 4*s*. 1*d*.

40. According to the Estimates for the year it was anticipated that the revenue to be collected would amount to £298,655. Over half of this was put down as coming from Customs and Excise, while more than a quarter was expected to come to the credit of the Special Account comprising the proceeds of the Produce Tax Act, the Traders Tax Act, the Stamp Duty Act, and the War Tax Stamp Act.

The Produce Tax Act (£1 a ton on sugar and 6*s*. 8*d*. per 100 gallons on molasses) and the Traders Tax Act were only to remain in force till 31st December, 1919.

41. The estimated expenditure for the year was put down at £301,915.

42. The actual revenue collected during the year was £420,136 and the actual expenditure £351,851, and the financial year closed with a balance to the credit of general revenue of £77,960.

43. The bulk of the excess of actual revenue collected over the estimate was due to unexpected increases under the heads of revenue quoted in paragraph 40 and also to an increased Post Office revenue.

The increased expenditure was due to the high cost of labour and materials.

44. The Produce Tax Act and Traders Tax Act were not renewed after 31st December, 1919, and the War Tax Stamp Act ceased to operate on 31st March, 1920.

45. No fresh taxation was imposed during the year and there is at present no income tax in Barbados.

46. There returned to the Colony for demobilization during the year, 686 of all ranks of the Barbados Contingent of the British West Indies Regiment.

47. Considerable difficulty was experienced in obtaining their accounts, with consequent delay in effecting settlements and a certain amount of natural irritation on the part of the men. These matters and the re-settlement of the men in civil life were very successfully handled by a Returned Soldiers' Committee.

48. Large numbers of coloured mercantile marine and naval ratings were also sent to Barbados from Ports in the United Kingdom during the year, in pursuance of a repatriation scheme worked by the Ministry of Shipping. Many of these were Barbadians, but the majority were sent for onward transport to other parts of the West Indies—a matter presenting some difficulty and involving the prolonged stay in the Colony of discontented natives of other islands with which communication is infrequent.

49. There is an Immigration of Paupers (Prevention) Act in force, but the Government place no obstacles in the way of emigration.

50. Licensed Emigration agents recruiting labour for countries not under British rule have to enter into a contract with the emigrants regulating the hours of work, pay, accommodation, etc., and providing for their repatriation (if so demanded) on the expiry of the contract.

These contracts have to be approved by the Government.

51. The number of stranger immigrants was, as usual, negligible. The Barbadian who leaves his island does so with the idea of returning as soon as he has made enough money, and there is, therefore, little or no room for strangers.

52. The departures during the year under review numbered 5,404 and the arrivals 12,783. Cuba took the greater share of those leaving the Colony.

53. The vital statistics show the estimated population on 31st December, 1919, to have been 200,368; the birth-rate for the year 27·5, the death-rate 30·9, and the infantile mortality 352 per 1,000 births.

54. During the year no serious epidemic occurred. Typhoid fever was persistent in one district, but was not unusually prevalent otherwise. The Government pipe-borne water supplied throughout the island was reported on favourably and continued at a high degree of purity, chemically and bacteriologically, throughout the year.

An offer was made to the Government by the International Health Board (Rockefeller Institute) to initiate a campaign against hookworm disease (ankylostomiasis) provided that the sanitation of the country districts were improved beforehand by the general adoption of pit latrines for the disposal of excreta. This proviso was not favourably received by the responsible parochial authorities and the Government was in consequence compelled reluctantly to decline the generous offer.

55. The year 1919–20 was rendered memorable by the visit to the Colony of His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales. His Royal Highness arrived in Carlisle Bay at 5 p.m. on 25th March, 1920, entertained some 200 guests in H.M.S. " Renown " that evening and landed at 10 a.m. on the following morning.

After receiving and replying to an address of welcome in the Chamber of the House of Assembly, His Royal Highness and suite went for a motor drive of some 30 miles into the country, returning by a different route, along roads lined by crowds, which gave His Royal Highness an enthusiastic welcome. His Royal Highness's programme was a full one ; returning to Government House for luncheon, he was again seen both in the town and country in the afternoon before attending a reception in Government House grounds, at which some 800 people were present. An official dinner at Government House, followed by a ball in the Public Buildings finished the day and began the next. At 1 a.m. on 27th March, His Royal Highness went on board the " Renown," leaving behind him some 200,000 people who will treasure the memory of this wonderful visit.

Barbadians will not forget that theirs was the first West Indian island to be visited by the Prince of Wales, and, loyal subjects of Great Britain, as they have ever been, their personal contact with His Royal Highness on this occasion and his gracious manner to all have undoubtedly put fresh warmth into their love of country and their personal devotion to the Crown.

IV.—GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

56. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the past five years are as follows :—

	Revenue. £	Expenditure. £
1915–16	212,484	227,009
1916–17	311,303	242,605
1917–18	399,969	456,303
1918–19	347,497	347,817
1919–20	420,136	351,851

57. The public debt on 31st March, 1920, was £530,000, and the sinking fund to redeem it £179,583.

58. There have been no important changes in taxation during 1919.

59. STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1920.

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Balance to credit of General Revenue at 31st March, 1920	77,960	0	9
Uncollected Police Tax	267	14	3½
Uncollected Water Rates	2,165	5	4
Advance on a/c of new Water Barges to be refunded by issue of debentures	7,366	0	1
	87,759	0	5½

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Accounts unpaid at 31st March, 1920	3,163	3	2
Vouchers in Audit Office on 31st March, 1920 ..	1,523	17	7
Liabilities on votes to be paid in 1920–21 ..	26,110	18	3
Excess of assets over liabilities 31st March, 1920	56,961	1	5½
	87,759	0	5½

V.—ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

IMPORTS (*a*).

60. The following table shows the value of imports from the United Kingdom, other parts of the British Empire, and elsewhere for the past five years.

	From U.K.	From other parts of the British Empire.	From elsewhere.	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1915 ..	441,449	358,426	470,279	1,270,154
1916 ..	596,920	577,828	676,054	1,851,054
1917 ..	617,503	710,653	957,122	2,285,278
1918 ..	597,571	1,118,248	1,270,187	2,986,006
1919 ..	739,861	1,436,392	1,717,205	3,893,458

61. The total value of the imports in 1919 thus exceeded the figures for 1918 by £907,452. The following comparative table shows the sources of import and the percentages from each source for the two years.

	1919.	1918.
	Per cent.	Per cent.
From the United Kingdom	19·0	20·0
,, Canada	18·3	16·0
,, British Possessions (including India) ..	18·4	21·5
,, United States of America	40·0	35·0
,, Other countries	4·3	7·5
	100·0	100·0

62. These figures show a decrease in imports from the United Kingdom of 1 per cent., an increase from Canada of 2·3 per cent., a decrease from other parts of the British Empire of 3·1 per cent., and an increase from the United States of America of 5 per cent., while imports from other countries decreased by 3·2 per cent.

63. From the above it may be gathered that the United Kingdom has not yet regained her position as regards trade with the Colony since the War. Canada is, as yet, unable fully to supply the island's needs and increased importation from the United States, principally in boots, shoes, paper and machinery, naturally follows in the circumstances.

64. The principal foreign countries showing decreases were :—

Peru, from which a considerable quantity of chemical manure was imported in 1918 and none in 1919.

Dutch West Indies, from which raw manure is imported. The quantity coming thence was less in 1919 than in 1918, but the more marked decline was in the value of the commodity.

Brazil, whence the decrease was in cotton thread, bran and farina.

Venezuela, though the decrease thence was not in the Colony's staple import of slaughter cattle, but in manure.

65. FOODSTUFFS.—*Cornmeal,* from the United States, showed a decrease of 800,000 lbs. due to shortage and restriction of exportation.

Rice showed an increase of nearly two million lbs. principally due to increased importation of eastern rice from India and the United Kingdom, the restrictions on the exportation of rice from India having been somewhat relaxed in 1919 while in British Guiana they became more stringent.

Flour from Canada and the United States showed an increase of about 4½ million lbs. divided in practically equal proportion between the two countries.

EXPORTS (*b*).

66. The following table shows the values of exports to the United Kingdom, other parts of the British Empire and elsewhere for the past five years.

	To United Kingdom.	To other parts of British Empire.	To elsewhere.	Bunker Coal supplied to vessels.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1915 ..	56,419	889,024	107,887	128,656	1,181,986
1916 ..	232,280	1,562,326	207,117	205,534	2,207,257
1917 ..	512,897	1,214,532	211,158	251,527	2,190,114
1918 ..	479,346	1,428,332	315,205	257,763	2,480,646
1919 ..	348,589	2,002,534	405,919	548,290	3,305,382

67. Thus the total value of the exports for 1919 exceeded those for 1918 by £824,736.

68. *Sugar.*—50,812 tons, value £1,232,415 were exported in 1919, as against 33,207 tons, value £687,453 in 1918, showing an increase in quantity of 17,605 tons and in value of £544,962.

69. *Molasses.*—7,569,830 gallons, value £883,597, were exported in 1919, as against 10,683,609 gallons, value £875,396 in 1918, showing a decrease in quantity of 3,113,779 gallons, but an increase in value of £8,201.

70. Thus the crop of 1919 was a heavier one than that of 1918, and worth £553,163 more.

71. The relative value of sugar to that of molasses was greater to the planter, consequently there was an increase in the manufacture of sugar and a decrease in molasses.

72. *Cotton* (*raw*).—114,444 lbs., value £22,888 were exported in 1919 as against 188,363 lbs. value £37,673 in 1918, showing a decrease of 73,919 lbs. in quantity and £14,785 in value.

73. The fact that less cotton was exported is not, however, an indication that less was grown. In recent years the exports, owing to the freight difficulties, have not corresponded with the crops of cotton.

74. *Rum.*—49,862 gallons, value £19,943, were exported in 1919, as against 45,268 gallons value £5,659 in 1918, an increase of 4,594 gallons in quantity and £14,284 in value.

75. There was no appreciable export trade in Barbados rum prior to the War, but it appears as though one were growing up though it is not of much magnitude at present—and this in spite of the fact that the greater part of the North American continent has gone " dry."

76. MINOR PRODUCTS.—The only commodities worthy of notice are *bread and biscuits*, made locally, *fresh vegetables*, and *tamarinds*.

Bread and Biscuits.—567,281 lbs. value £11,818 were exported in 1919 as against 161,150 lbs. value £3,223 in 1918, an increase of 406,131 lbs. in quantity and £8,595 in value.

Fresh vegetables to the value of only £364 were exported in 1919 as against a value of £6,830 in 1918. The quantities are not availabie. The decrease was due to shortage consequent on the cultivation of sugar cane yielding such relatively high returns.

Tamarinds to the value of £2,873 were exported in 1919 as against £3,755 in 1918, a decrease of £882. The quantities are not available. The demand is chiefly from Italy.

AGRICULTURE (*c*).

77. The sugar crop exported has been set forth under its various headings in section V. (*b*). The following table gives the yield in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

1915	39,803 tons
1916	73,581 ,,
1917	69,367 ,,
1918	57,191 ,,
1919	69,628 ,,

78. The increase of 12,437 tons for 1919 above the crop of the previous year was due to a considerable extent to the increased area planted in sugar-canes, owing to the greatly enhanced prices that had been obtaining for some time for sugar, and also to some extent to a better distribution of the rainfall in 1918 than in 1917. Owing to the prolonged drought which prevailed during 1920 the crop of 1921 is likely to be much below the average and if to-day's prices prevail the cost of production may be found to be in excess of the revenue obtained therefrom.

79. The seedling sugar-canes B.H.10 (12) and the Ba. 6032 which have been mentioned in the annual reports for the past three years, still continue to give considerable yields over the White Transparent and the B. 6450, the two varieties at present used as the standard canes. From a recent report of the Department of Agriculture it appears during the past seven years that the B.H. 10 (12), grown under the same conditions as the two standard canes, has on the average given 61·3 per cent. more than the White Transparent and 25·4 per cent. more than the B. 6450. The Ba. 6032 gave 49·2 per cent. more than the White Transparent and 11·4 per cent. more than the B. 6450.

80. Of the newer seedlings considered to give promising results, mention may be made of the Ba. 11,403, B.S.F. 12 (50), B. 67, B. 2,001 and B. 268. The Director of Agriculture again reports that owing to attacks of the root borer (*Diaprepes abbreviatus*, Linn.) and the brown hard-back (*Phytalus smithi*, Arrow), the experiments that were carried out for the season 1918–20 were practically rendered nugatory. Every effort has been made at the Government Experiment stations to reduce the numbers of these pests by collecting them, but, if these efforts are to be attended with success, the co-operation of owners and managers of neighbouring estates is indispensable, and this does not appear to have been complete during the year. To show how impossible it is to find a basis for any recommendations with regard to seedling sugar-canes or to the best manurial plots, it may be mentioned that in the case of manurial plots the number of root borers and brown hard-backs varied from 3,774 to 9,488 per acre, and in the case of the seedling sugar-cane varieties from 406 to 6,387. Also to show how impossible it is to obtain any comparative results with the sugar-canes grown from seed the first year, it may be stated that 47,382 root-borer, brown hard-back and root-borer egg batches were obtained from just over two acres of these seedlings. In 1919, owing to the prevalence of the root-borer and the brown hard-back and the injury they were doing to the sugar canes, the Governor appointed a Commission to advise as to what measures should be adopted to control or eradicate them. The commission duly reported and the report was laid on the table of the House of Assembly on 25th November, 1919, but up to the time of writing this it has not yet been printed. This is most unfortunate. All Government printing is done by contract and it is common knowledge that all contractors have had great difficulties to contend with.

81. It is usual here to insert a table giving a comparative statement of the cotton crops for the year under review and the previous year. Owing, however, to the War there was great difficulty in getting ships to take cotton at the right time, and so some of the cotton for one year is included in the exports of the following year, and thus it is impossible to get an accurate statement showing the yield of the crop of one year as compared with that of the previous one.

82. Owing to the very high price of cotton due to the War, which at one time was something like 300 per cent. on pre-war prices, the area under cotton exceeded that of the previous year by 108 acres. It would have been probably greater if the price of sugar had not been so high. It was mentioned in the last annual report that the Department of Agriculture had been, for some time, improving the exotic and indigenous cottons by selection and that the Governor had sanctioned the planting on Government land of twenty acres of the improved exotic cotton to furnish seed of the good strain for planting the area which was

estimated would be grown during the year 1919–20. This has proved sufficient and the result is that this year the yield of the cotton crop per acre promises to be larger than it has been for some years. It may be mentioned that samples of the 1919–20 cotton were sent to Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland for examination and sale, and that they reported favourably on the samples, and were able to obtain 88*d*. per pound when cotton of a similar class was selling at 80*d*. per pound.

83. During 1919 the British Union Oil Company, Limited, leased certain Government land abutting on Carlisle Bay with a view to establishing an oil bunkering station. This Company also has leases covering a large area (approximately two-thirds of the island) and has done sufficient prospecting to warrant the installation of heavy drilling plant for deep testing, which is now being imported and set up.

VI.—BANKS.

84. There are two Banks doing business in Barbados; the Colonial Bank with a paid-up capital of £900,000, and the Royal Bank of Canada with a paid-up capital of £3,541,666.

85. The Colonial Bank has a note circulation (five dollar notes) of £350,000. In Barbados the estimated circulation is £50,000.

86. There is a Government Savings Bank, which had, on 31st December, 1919, 12,647 depositors, and deposits amounting to £303,734.

87. The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was formed in 1907, in circumstances and for objects set forth below.

88. In the year 1902, a sum of £250,000 was granted by the Imperial Parliament in aid of the Sugar Industry of the West Indies and British Guiana, of which total £80,000 was allocated to Barbados. Just about that time, the sugar planters were finding it exceedingly difficult to obtain advances from the Colonial Bank to enable them to keep their estates in cultivation, as many of these planters had not been able to repay the loans made to them on the security of their crops, owing to the very low price for which the produce had been selling.

89. The local Government therefore considered that the best way to utilise the grant of £80,000 was to keep it intact as a reserve fund on which to raise the necessary money for working the plantations, and thereby provide employment for the agricultural labourers of the island.

90. An Act called "The Plantations in Aid Act," 1902, was passed to carry out the above-mentioned object, and this Act proved so beneficial to the planters that it was renewed each year until the year 1906; after which it was decided to rest the original grant of £80,000 with all the accretions of interest that had been made during the years 1902–1906 in a bank to be styled "The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank," which Bank was to be conducted by seven persons who would form the board of management the chairman being the Colonial Secretary for the time being, four members being appointed by the House of Assembly annually, one by the Legislative Council, and one by the Agricultural Society.

91. The amount loaned for the year 1st June, 1919, to 31st May, 1920, was £373,498 6*s*. 8*d*. This sum was loaned to 150 different owners. The profit arising from these transactions came to £6,204 6*s*. 10½*d*.

92 The total funds of the Bank, at 31st May, 1920, amounted to £146,968 5*s*. 0½*d*.

VII.—LEGISLATION.

93. The following Acts, which may be of interest outside the Colony, were passed during the year:—

(1) The Peace Preservation Act, 1919 (1919–8), conferring power on the Government, when it is necessary for the preservation of the peace, to search for arms and ammunition in any district and proclaim such district as one in which it is unlawful to have arms, etc.

(2) The Ammunition Act, 1919 (1919–16), prohibiting the importation of ammunition except under licence, and also the sale of ammunition to any except the licensed keepers of firearms.

(3) The Cinematograph Act, 1919 (1919–25), providing for the appointment of a board to censor films.

(4) The Old Metal Dealers Act, 1919 (1919–27), requiring dealers in old metals to be registered with the police and imposing stringent conditions as to the purchase of old metals.

VIII.—EDUCATION.

94. For local convenience the schools of the Colony are divided into three classes:—Elementary, second-grade and first-grade. The elementary school corresponds in most details to the English schools of this type and the education given in the first and second-grade schools corresponds to English secondary education.

95. There are no Government schools as this term is understood. There is a central administrative Board, but each elementary school is under a local committee consisting of the minister of the district and two laymen appointed annually by the Central Board. Each first and second-grade school is under the authority of a governing body, constituted in accordance with schemes framed by the Central Board.

96. Education is not compulsory. There are no continuation schools or classes, nor is any provision made for technical or industrial education.

97. At the beginning of 1919 there were 138 elementary schools in operation; this number remained unchanged throughout the year. In addition to these there were three Ragged schools which provide the elements of knowledge for very poor children who are unable to attend the ordinary elementary school.

98. During 1919, the number of pupils on the registers, exclusive of the three Ragged schools, was 19,510 and the average daily attendance was 11,438. The pressure of economic conditions which was greater in 1919 than in 1918, has caused a further decline in the attendance. With the return of normal conditions there will doubtless be an improvement. The large majority of the children attending these schools belong to the agricultural class, and only a small percentage goes beyond Standard IV. This standard is equivalent to the factory standard recognised in countries in which compulsory education exists.

99. The children who reach the higher standards are sufficiently intelligent to benefit by vocational training and would make excellent material for technical and industrial courses.

100. By means of exhibitions, the elementary schools are linked up with the first and second-grade schools, and winners of these exhibitions have eventually won scholarships tenable at English Universities.

101. To a moderate extent, provision is made in the elementary schools for manual instruction.

102. The cost of elementary education during 1919, including the training of teachers and the upkeep of buildings was £20,333; of this sum £19,308 was provided by the Central Government and £1,025 by the parochial authorities.

103. The number of second-grade schools was the same as during the past several years: five for boys and one for girls.

104. The curriculum in these schools embraces English, Mathematics, Latin, French, Spanish, and commercial subjects. The upper forms are entered for the Cambridge Local Junior and Senior Examinations, and the students acquit themselves very creditably Pupils who leave these schools find no difficulty in obtaining work in mercantile offices and in banks. Some become teachers, while others secure employment on sugar estates.

105. Cadet Companies and Scout Troops exist in connection with some of these boys' schools, and the training given has produced satisfactory results.

106. The cost of second-grade education, inclusive of exhibitions, was £1,570 during 1919, and the attendance during the year was 413.

107. The number of first-grade schools was three—two for boys, and one for girls.

108. The range of work in the two first-grade schools for boys, extends from elementary instruction in the Preparatory Form, to the level of open scholarships at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

109. The Fourth Form is entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination and the Fifth and Sixth Forms for the Oxford and Cambridge Lower and Higher Certificate Examinations, and the results are, in general, satisfactory. A scholarship, called the "Barbados Scholarship," is annually competed for by boys of these two schools. This scholarship is tenable for four years at any University or College in Europe or Canada. In 1919 this Scholarship was awarded to a classical candidate in accordance with the recommendation of the Examiners appointed by the Cambridge Syndicate.

110. The range of the work in the girls' first-grade school extends from elementary instruction to the level required for the Senior Cambridge Local and the London University Examinations. Girls are also prepared for the South Kensington and Ablett Drawing Examinations. The progress made by all these schools is satisfactory and they afford a liberal education for the boys and girls of the Colony.

111. Flourishing Cadet Companies exist in connection with the three boys' schools, and Girl Guide Troops have recently been started in connection with the girls' schools and have achieved remarkable success. This movement is also being extended to the elementary schools.

112. The cost of first-grade education during 1919 was £2,318, and the number of pupils in attendance was 400.

113. University education is also obtainable in the Colony. Codrington College, founded early in the 18th century, is affiliated to the University of Durham. This college receives no financial aid from the Government beyond the four Island Scholarships of £40 each per annum, which are tenable there. The number of students in attendance during 1919 was 16.

IX.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(*a*) EXTERNAL.

114. The contract for a regular fortnightly mail service to and from the United Kingdom which had previously been supplied by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company was abandoned during the War and has not been resumed since. It is of course very desirable that the Colony should have regular steamship communication with the United Kingdom. Such a service, however, cannot be carried on without a subsidy, and, in the case of small islands, to find the necessary money for a subsidy and to come to an agreement as to the quota which each should contribute is no easy matter.

115. A regular service with Canada is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, calling at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, the Southern Islands and British Guiana.

116. The following steamship lines carried mails during 1919:—The regular lines—not sailing on scheduled dates—were, from the United Kingdom: The " Direct " Line from London, " Harrison " and " Leyland " from Liverpool, and the " Glasgow " Line from Glasgow. From the United States of America to Northern Islands, Barbados and British Guiana " Quebec " S.S. Line.

The " New Orleans and South American " Line, the " Raporel" Line and the " Lloyd Braziliero " Line also call at irregular periods to and from the United States.

" Lamport and Holt " and " Booth " steamers called here irregularly on the routes to and from the United States and Brazil, and the " La Veloce," an Italian Line from Mediterranean Ports to and from Colon.

117. The length of passage from the United Kingdom is 15 to 17 days, from Halifax and New York 14 days (not direct) and 7½ days (direct) respectively.

118. Communication with the other West Indian Islands is also maintained by sailing vessels at irregular intervals.

119. The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships which entered the port of Bridgetown during the year 1919.

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
684	1,678,562	756	156,376	1,440	1,834,938

120. As compared with 1918, 325 more vessels (294 steamers and 31 sailing vessels) entered the port.

121. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at Barbados, and direct cable communication with St. Vincent, and thence to the other West Indies, America and Europe. The Company receives an annual subsidy of £1,500 from Barbados.

122. There is also a small Government Wireless Telegraph Station, erected during the War as a war station, and utilised since the signing of the Armistice for ship to shore and shore to ship commercial traffic.

(*b*) INTERNAL.

123. The Barbados Government Railway has 28 miles of line from Bridgetown to St. Andrew.

124. The gauge is 2 feet 6 inches and £47,917 has been spent on the reconstruction of the line since its purchase by the Government in 1916 to date.

125. The line, however, follows the coast for the greater part of its course, and most of the produce of the Island is consequently conveyed to the port by road and not by rail.

126. There is an elaborate system of roads throughout the Island, 473 miles of road being suitable to motor vehicles ; the wear and tear on the roads is, however, very heavy, and their present condition leaves much to be desired.

127. An American private tramway company maintains a service of mule-drawn tramway cars throughout Bridgetown and suburbs.

128. There is no telegraph line in Barbados, but telephonic communication is maintained by the Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, a private company, with 1,270 services and about 2,401 miles of line in use.

129. The Post Office does a considerable and increasing money order and parcels business with the countries to which Barbadians emigrate :—Canada, the United States of America, Panama and Cuba. The central office is in Bridgetown, with ten country offices, five of which transact money order business. Four deliveries of mails are made daily in Bridgetown, and one delivery daily in the country districts.

FRANCIS JENKINS,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
8*th March*, 1921.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1037	St. Vincent	1918–1919
1038	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	,,
1039	St. Helena	1919
1040	Weihaiwei	,,
1041	Nyasaland	1918–1919
1042	Turks and Caicos Islands	1919
1043	Grenada	,,
1044	Bermuda	,,
1045	Basutoland	1919–1920
1046	Cyprus	,,
1047	Fiji	1919
1048	Straits Settlements	,,
1049	Ceylon	,,
1050	Gibraltar	1919–1920
1051	Somaliland	,,
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	,,
1054	Uganda	1918–1919
1055	Malta	,,
1056	Swaziland	1919–1920
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919–1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	,,
1061	Seychelles	,,
1062	Mauritius	,,
1063	St. Vincent	April-December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	,,
1066	Gold Coast	,,
1067	Jamaica	1919–1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1070	British Honduras	,,
1071	Hong Kong	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1087.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1920-21.

(For Report for 1919-20 see No. 1072.)

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BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1920–21.

I. GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude 13° 4′ north and longitude 59° 37′ west. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 1,200 to the square mile or nearly two to the acre. In size it is therefore comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras ; in climate, to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them " Los Barbados " on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship " Olive Blossom " in the name of King James I.

4. James I granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonise the island. Some thirty settlers landed on the leeward coast, and founded Holetown.

5. Charles I, in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of pre-occupation against Lord Carlisle, and, under this last grant, the " Leeward " settlers at Holetown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's " Windward " settlers, who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died, leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham

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for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an Act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados, and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the Government when the Commonwealth was established, though many royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim and the heirs of Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a 4½ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the Colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor.

II. CLIMATE.

16. Barbados is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by residents in neighbouring Colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito (the carrier of malaria) is not found in the Island. This is a somewhat curious fact, since it is

scarcely conceivable that some are not imported in the Inter-Colonial sailing craft which crowd the "Careenage," or inner basin of the harbour, but the insects do not appear to find suitable breeding-places on shore.

18. The temperature throughout the year varies, as a rule, from 74° to 84° Fahr.

19. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds and, between November and May, the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° Fahr.

20. The winter months are regarded as the "Tourist Season."

21. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, and have done great damage.

22. The "hurricane months" are July to October.

23. On the 21st August, 1918, there was what is locally termed a "blow," which fortunately lasted only a few minutes. In those few minutes, however, damage to the extent of some £6,000 to £7,000 was done, mostly to the somewhat unsubstantial houses of the poorer classes.

24. The year covered by this report was remarkable, so far as weather only is concerned, as a year of extreme drought.

25. Meteorological records for 1920 show that the average maximum temperature was 85·0° Fahr. The highest temperature for the year being 89·3° Fahr. recorded on the 31st October, and the lowest 65·4° Fahr. on the 12th February.

26. The rainfall for the year was 42·55 inches, that is to say, 8·75 inches less than the rainfall for 1919 and 21·18 inches below the average for the past five years.

III. GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

27. This report is entitled "Report for 1920–21," but it may be of assistance to explain here that, as regards Government Finance, the period covered is from the 1st of April, 1920, to the 31st of March, 1921.

The figures dealing with trade, meteorological returns, vital statistics, etc., are figures for the Calendar year 1920.

In matters affecting agriculture, however, it is not practicable to confine the report to the limits of either of the above-mentioned periods. The "plant-canes" reaped in 1920 were planted in November or December, 1918, while the ratoons reaped in

1920 are from plants last cut down in 1919, and it is therefore necessary to go back 15 to 12 months to trace the history of their growth. The incidence of the agricultural season also explains the reason why the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank should close its accounts on the 31st of May in each year, when the harvest is approaching completion.

28. In an island which is mainly, if not wholly, dependent for its prosperity upon agriculture a year of drought such as that felt in 1920 is little short of a calamity, and the crop of sugar-cane reaped in 1921 will be found to be extremely light when the harvest is complete.

29. Practically the whole of Barbados with the exception of about 46 acres of primeval forest on the lands of Turners Hall Plantation, is under cultivation.

30. The main crop is sugar-cane. Cotton also is grown. Vegetables, such as sweet potatoes, yams, eddoes, &c., cultivated as change crops, provide an important item in the food of a crowded population, and grass has a high value as fodder for the cattle, though all attempts hitherto made to preserve green food for the dry season by means of silos have proved failures.

31. The sugar crop regarding which details are given in this report is the crop reaped between February and June, 1920.

32. It was noticed in the last Annual General Report that the rainfall in 1919 was 9·11 inches under the average.

33. This shortage of rain in 1919 naturally affected the crop of 1920, which amounted to 48,212 tons of sugar, or 21,416 tons less than the crop of 1919. This falling-off is solely attributable to drought, especially in September, October, and November of 1919, the most important months for growth of sugar cane.

34. The price to be obtained for sugar and molasses during the year 1920 varied to an unprecedented extent.

35. At the beginning of the year covered by this report (in January, 1920) sugar was selling at about $10.00 per 100 lb., and fancy mollasses about 80 cents per gallon.

36. By early May the price had risen to $20.00 per 100 lb. for sugar and $1.20 per gallon for fancy molasses.

37. In August the market broke and on the 31st of March, 1921, the price of sugar was about $5.00 to $5.50 per 100 lb. and fancy molasses 35 cents per gallon.

38. In the circumstances 1920 was a year of speculation in Barbados and large sums of money were made and lost.

39. To give an example, the Colonial Government, fearing a shortage of sugar for local consumption retained in January, 1920,

approximately 5,000 tons for Barbados. The price paid was $10.00 per 100 lb., which enabled it to be retailed at 12 cents. (6d.) per lb.

40. This proved a great benefit to the people, who would otherwise have had to pay as much as a shilling a pound for sugar while the high prices ruled, but when the market broke the Government naturally had to reduce the retail price in order to get rid of the sugar, and by selling below cost price lost £58,000 odd on the transaction.

41. A fair portion of the crop to be reaped in 1920 had been sold in advance by planters between September and December, 1919, at prices varying from $7.25 to $9.50 per 100 lb., and at the time of delivery was worth approximately twice as much. Local buyers, however, held on in many instances for bigger profits, and at the beginning of 1921 were left with some 8,000 tons of sugar and 6,000 to 7,000 puncheons of molasses on their hands.

42. The inflated price of sugar gave rise to a certain amount of speculation in land, and estates changed hands at prices which make it appear that their purchasers must have calculated upon selling their sugar at about $10 for the next five years or so.

43. Twenty-four estates comprising 6,766 acres in all were sold in 1920 for £990,650, or an average of £146 per acre.

44. Owing to the large area planted in sugar canes, as proving the most remunerative crop, it was considered necessary, in order that enough home grown vegetables might be produced, to re-enact the Vegetable Produce Act in 1920.

This Act compels owners of three acres and upwards of arable land to devote a certain proportion to the cultivation of vegetables. Owing to the prolonged drought, however, the vegetable crop failed altogether on many estates and gave far below the average yield on others.

45. The cost of living reached the highest point touched since 1914, during the month of August, 1920.

46. In that month the retail prices of twenty-five commodities in common household use, comprising cereals, salt meat, salt fish, edible oils and fats, milk, vegetables (locally produced), fuel, kerosine oil, matches, soap, tobacco and rum stood at an average of 220 per cent. higher than the retail prices prevailing in August, 1914.

Had articles of clothing been taken into account the percentage of increase would have been greater.

47. Since August there has been a marked decline, but with the main industry of the Island in its present state of depression and the consequent need for economy in working expenses all round the fall in prices will have to be much greater still before it is very generally felt.

48. As has been explained in previous reports there is no system of Government emigration. Agents recruiting labour for countries not under British rule have to enter into a contract with the labourers so recruited. The contract regulates the hours of work, rates of pay, accommodation, &c., to be provided, and stipulates for the repatriation of the labourer (if so demanded) at the expiry of the contract which must be approved by the Colonial Government.

49. Under this system a considerable number of Barbadian workmen were sent to Cuba in 1920, and probably as many more went there voluntarily without contract, paying their own passages.

50. The total number of departures during the year was 15,846, and of arrivals 13,168.

51. The large majority of the arrivals are Barbadians returning home. There is nothing to restrict the immigration of strangers (except the Immigration of Paupers (Prevention) Act) beyond the fact that there is little or no room for them in the Island.

52. The financial year opened on the 1st April, 1920, with a balance of £77,960 to the credit of general revenue.

53. The revenue to be collected during the year was estimated at £249,500 while the year's expenditure was estimated at £359,135.

54. The actual revenue collected during the year was £454,286 and the actual expenditure was £508,391.

55. A local loan of £40,000 was raised during the year by the issue of Government debentures bearing interest 5 per cent.—not a strikingly attractive form of investment in 1920 perhaps, but application was made for nearly three times the amount required to be raised.

56. This £40,000 was earmarked for certain specific purposes, the erection of a lighthouse at the north end of the Island, the extension of the Police Barracks, the purchase of a building in Bridgetown known as the Commercial Hall, the provision of better facilities for the supply of water to shipping in the Port and the purchase of a motor launch for the use of the Harbour Police.

57. The £40,000 so raised is included in the figures given in paragraph 54 above both as actual revenue and actual expenditure. By the provisions of the Act under which the loan was raised the proceeds have to be paid to general revenue, but the money had to be withdrawn again from the Treasury and placed to the credit of a special account at the Bank to be utilised for the special purposes mentioned.

58. The actual revenue figures were further swelled by the refund to the Treasury from this special account of some £30,000

advanced therefrom before the raising of the loan for the specific works which it was intended to cover.

59. The balance of the excess of actual over estimated revenue was mainly due to extraordinary receipts from import duties and excise in a quite abnormal year, amounting to nearly £75,000 and £15,000 respectively; to unforeseen Post Office revenue of nearly £15,000 mainly accounted for by profits on the sale of drafts from the United States of America and Canada to settle Money Order transactions, to £11,000 odd of extra receipts under the Stamp Duty Act and to some £7,000 of additional revenue made by the Railway on the raising of charges for freight.

60. The excess of actual over estimated expenditure was mainly due to the increased cost of labour, material, and provisions for Government institutions and to the loss of £58,000 odd on the sugar transaction mentioned in paragraphs 39 and 40 above.

61. The year closed on the 31st of March, 1921, after this sugar transaction had been adjusted, with a debtor balance of £3,770 16*s*. 10*d*.

62. No fresh taxation was imposed during the year, though the majority of members returned to the House of Assembly at the general election in November, 1920, gave a pledge to their constituents that they would vote for an income tax.

63. The Colony sent delegates to the Canada-West Indies Trade Conference which was held in Ottawa in June, 1920, and the report of the delegates was laid before the Legislature on 4th August.

64. The draft agreement under which Barbados would give a 50 per cent. preference to Canada and the British Empire generally and subsidise a Canadian Steamship service has been ratified by the Legislature and came into effect on 1st July, 1921.

65. The vital statistics show the estimated population on the 31st December, 1920, to have been 198,336; the birth-rate for the year 29·68, the death rate 26·44, and the infantile mortality 270 per 1,000 births.

66. Public health throughout 1920 was generally good except for the prevalence of typhoid fever in four districts including Bridgetown and the Parish of St. Michael. The Vestries of the several parishes levy rates for the upkeep of Parochial institutions, repair of highways, poor relief and sanitary measures and, while every other parish in the Island has its own isolation hospital, the local sanitary authority had up to the close of the year failed to provide such an institution for the chief town and surrounding districts. The number of cases of typhoid treated in the General Hospital in Bridgetown was 165 and the deaths were 55. The Government pipe-borne water throughout the Island continued to be reported on as chemically and bacteriologically pure and the

increasing prevalence of typhoid fever was held to be the result of direct infection from person to person by contact and of indirect infection by flies.

The local sanitary authority for St. Michael's Parish engaged the services of a sanitary engineer to examine a proposal to lay down a modern system of sewerage in Bridgetown and his report is awaited.

67. To sum up, 1920 was probably the most prosperous year ever known in Barbados. The value of the exports from the Colony (*see* paragraph 81) was over 1½ millions sterling more than ever before. The Colony was able to import (*see* paragraph 72) over 1¼ million pounds worth more than in any previous year.

The number of depositors in the Government Savings Bank (*see* paragraph 101) increased by 3¼ per cent. and the value of their deposits by over 126 per cent.

Against the above one must notice the loss which exporters will have to face on the quantity of 1920 sugar and molasses carried over unsold into 1921, and the loss to the importers on selling at 1921 prices goods imported in 1920.

The prosperity of the Colony is not reflected in the figures showing the condition of Government Finance (*see* paragraph 70). The year opened with a credit balance of £77,960 and closed with a debtor balance of £3,770 and in view of the abnormal drought and the state of the market for the main product of the Island the outlook for 1921–22 is by no means reassuring.

IV. GOVERNMENT FINANCE.

68. The totals of revenue and expenditure for the past five financial years are as follows :—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1916–17	311,303	242,605
1917–18	399,969	456,303
1918–19	347,497	347,817
1919–20	420,136	351,851
1920–21	454,286	508,391

69. The public debt on the 31st March, 1921, was £567,150, and the Sinking Fund to redeem it £194,942 19*s*. 2*d*.

There were no important changes in Taxation during 1920–21.

70. STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON THE 31ST MARCH, 1921.

Assets.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Balance to credit of general Revenue at 31st March, 1921	32,188	4	8
Uncollected Police Tax	249	19	11
Uncollected Water Rates	5,078	9	6
Excess of Liabilities over Assets ..	3,770	16	10
	£41,287	10	11

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
Accounts unpaid at 31st March, 1921 ..	1,463	18	1½
Vouchers in Audit Office on 31st March, 1921.	378	14	8
Liabilities on votes to be paid in 1921–22	30,911	15	2½
Excess on Resolutions to be paid in 1921–22.	199	16	3
Temporary Loan from Savings Bank ..	8,333	6	8
	41,287	10	11

V. ANNUAL PROGRESS OF TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

(*a*) IMPORTS.

71. The following table shows the value of imports from the United Kingdom, other parts of the British Empire and elsewhere for the past five years.

	From U.K.	From other parts of the British Empire.	From elsewhere	Total.
	£	£	£	£
1916	596,920	577,828	676,054	1,851,054
1917	617,503	710,653	957,122	2,285,278
1918	597,571	1,118,248	1,270,187	2,986,006
1919	739,861	1,436,392	1,717,205	3,893,458
1920	1,559,498	1,557,495	2,008,544	5,145,537

72. The total value of the imports in 1920 thus exceeded the figures for 1919 by £1,252,079.

73. The following table shows the sources of import and the percentages from each source for the past three years.

	1920.	1919.	1918.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
From the United Kingdom ..	30·1	19	20
,, Canada	18·3	18·3	16
,, Other parts of British Empire.	12·4	18·4	21·5
,, United States of America	35·8	40	35
,, Other Countries ..	3·4	4·3	7·5
	100	100	100

74. This shows an appreciable recovery of trade with the Colony by the United Kingdom. Canada's position remains about the same and there is a slight falling off on the part of the United States.

75. As noticed last year, it is principally in boots, shoes, paper, motor cars and machinery that the United States is doing a trade with the Island which might be done with the United Kingdom.

76. The decline in imports from other parts of the British Empire is to a great extent due to the fact that no rice came direct from the East during the year. Newfoundland also sent appreciably less fish.

77. The principal foreign countries showing decreases were :—

Brazil, Chili and the Virgin Islands (U.S.A.) ; all in manure, chemical or raw.

78. There was increased importation from :—

Holland, of manure, oleomargarine, gin, wine and paper ; Columbia and the French West Indies, in cotton seed for crushing ; the Argentine, in corn, bran, pollard and mules ; and from Japan, in silk manufactures.

Foodstuffs.

79. *Rice.*—3,529,628 lb. less was imported in 1920 than in 1919. British Guiana sent about the same quantity. The falling off was from India.

In the circumstances the Colony naturally took more :—

Cornmeal.—13,657½ bags for home consumption more than in 1919, and

Flour.—4,045 more bags. Canada sent the greater part of the additional flour.

(*b*) EXPORTS.

80. The following table shows the value of exports to the United Kingdom, other parts of the British Empire and elsewhere during the past five years :—

	To United Kingdom.	To other parts of British Empire.	To Elsewhere.	Bunker Coal supplied to vessels.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
1916	232,280	1,562,326	207,117	205,534	2,207,257
1917	512,897	1,214,532	211,158	251,527	2,190,114
1918	479,346	1,428,332	315,205	257,763	2 480,646
1919	348,589	2,002,534	405,919	548,290	3,305,382
1920	1,083,420	2,079,424	1,218,042	484,894	4,865,894

81. Thus the total value of the exports for 1920 exceeded that of those for 1919 by £1,560,512.

82. The following table shows the direction of the export trade for the past three years.

	1920.	1919.	1918.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
To the United Kingdom ..	29·6	15·5	24
„ Canada	35·5	66·9	52
„ Other parts of the British Empire	8·5	9·9	12·2
„ United States of America ..	15·9	3·9	10·6
„ Other Countries	10·5	3·8	1·2
	100	100	100

83. *Sugar.*—The decrease in the total quantity of sugar shipped is 6,015 tons, but the increase in value is £970,637.

Molasses.—The decrease in the total quantity of molasses shipped is 856,900 gallons and the increase in value £426,927.

Rum.—Less rum was exported than in 1919 by 19,552 gallons, value £13,123.

Cotton (Raw).—The decrease in raw cotton is 92,927 lb., worth £21,383.

Minor Products.

Bread and Biscuits.—310,454 lb., value £6,209, were exported as against 567,281 lb., value £11,818 in 1919.

Manjak.—91 tons, value £2,274, were exported, as against 38 tons, value £646, in 1919.

Fresh Vegetables to the value of only £11 were exported as against £364 worth in 1919.

No *Tamarinds* went out, as against £2,873 worth in 1919.

84. The following table, showing the average prices f.o.b. of the main products of the Island for the past five years, may be of interest:—

	1916.			1917.			1918.			1919.			1920.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sugar per ton ..	20	0	0	20	10	0	20	10	0	28	10	0	63	15	0
Molasses per gal. ..		1	1½		1	1½		1	7½		1	10		3	1
Cotton per lb. ..		1	5		2	2		4	0		4	0		1	5
Rum per gal. ..		1	10		2	1		2	6		8	0		4	6

(*c*) AGRICULTURE.

85. Practically all the land is devoted to the cultivation of economic crops, sugar and its by-products, cotton, sweet potatoes, yams, Indian corn, eddoes, cassava and various pulses.

86. Owing to the very high price at which sugar and molasses were sold during the past few years there was a comparatively large acreage under canes in 1920.

87. The decrease in the 1920 sugar crop of 21,416 tons below that of the previous year was due to the lessened rainfall in 1919, especially in September, October and November of that year.

88. From the same cause, and the continued droughts throughout 1920, the yields of the various vegetable crops were very far below the average.

89. The following table gives the exports of sugar, equating fancy molasses thereto, for the past five years :—

1916	73,581 tons.
1917	69,367 ,,
1918	57,191 ,,
1919	69,628 ,,
1920	48,212 ,,

90. The high price of sugar reacted on the price of agricultural land which sold at an average of £146 per acre in 1920 or 66 per cent. more than in 1919.

91. The present drought, which is the most severe ever recorded in the Island, leaves no doubt that the 1921 crop must be much lighter than that of 1920, and, as the price of sugar and molasses has fallen considerably, planters with few exceptions will incur a loss on working their estates.

92. The Director of Agriculture reports that the seedling sugar canes, B.H.10 (12), B.a.6032 and B.a.11,569 still continue to give excellent results when compared with the White Transparent and B.6450, the two varieties which have been used for several years for purposes of comparison with the newer seedlings.

93. The following table shows the results obtained with the better varieties as compared with the White Transparent and B.6450 for the crop season of 1920 :—

Name of Cane.	No. of years.	No. of Experiments	Percentage of increase on White Transparent.	B.6450.
B.H.10(12) ..	7	59	61·3	25·4
B.a.6032	6	85	49·2	11·4
B.a.7924	7	50	39·5	7·9
B.a.11,403 ..	6	6	44·7	6·7
B.a.11,569 ..	6	25	53·8	11·5
B.a.12,079 ..	6	10	41·6	11·5
B.S.F.12(48) ..	5	5	29·8	12·6
B.S.F.12(50) ..	5	5	39·6	21·1

94. The Director of Agriculture reports again that, owing to the attacks of the root borer (*Diaprepes abbreviatus*) and the brown hard-back (*Phytalus smithi*), a number of the sugar-cane experiments carried out for the year 1919–20 are practically valueless. This will be realised when it is stated that the lowest number of grubs of these two pests obtained from the manurial plots when the stools were dug out and examined, and the old cane holes dug out two feet square and one foot deep, was at the rate of 3,744, and the highest 9,478, per acre, one plot containing nearly three times as much as the other. In the case of the sugar-cane varietal plots the number varied from 406 to 8,479 per acre. In addition, a number of mature insects of both species were collected on the lands of the Government estates where the experiments were carried out, the total from March 1, 1919, to February 28, 1920, being 310,692.

95. As was pointed out in last year's report, His Excellency the Governor appointed a Commission to enquire into, and to advise what measures should be adopted to control or eradicate these pests. The Commission duly reported, and the report was laid on the table of the House of Assembly on November 19, 1919, and ordered to be printed. It was delivered by the printing contractors on May 25, 1921.

96. The following table gives the comparison of the cotton crops by the crops, that is, from October 1 of one year to September 30, of the next year:—

	Crop of 1918–19.	Crop of 1919–20.	Decrease.
Acres	1,445	1,179	266
Quantity	114,444 lb.	100,610	13,834
Value	£18,318	13,201	5,117

97. From the above it will be seen that owing to a smaller area being under cotton in the year 1919–20 there was a smaller yield and also a smaller total value. This latter was to a great extent due to the fall in the price at which the cotton sold.

98. It was mentioned in last year's report that the Government had sanctioned the planting of twenty acres of the improved exotic cotton so as to furnish seed of a good quality for planting the area it is estimated would be grown during the season 1919–20. As this seed gave an excellent yield of good cotton, where the ravages of the cotton caterpillars were prevented, it proved sufficient for the needs of the cotton-planting community. A similar arrangement was made for the year under review. It may be mentioned that samples of cotton grown in 1919–20 were kindly examined and reported on by Mr. C. M. Wolstenholme, of the firm of Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland, Cotton Brokers

of Liverpool, and Dr. W. Lawrence Balls, Cotton Expert, of the Fine Cotton Spinners and Doublers Association, Ltd., Manchester, and were on the whole satisfactory.

99. The British Union Oil Company Limited, has actively pursued prospecting operations during the year, and at the time of writing this report (May, 1921) have five trial bores in progress at :—

Mount Poyer, St. Lucy, 713 ft. 15½ in. casing in sandy shale.

Canefield, St. Thomas, 185 ft., conductor piping only in oceanics.

Springfield, St. Joseph, 1,524 ft. 8¼ in. casing in oil sand.

Consetts Bay, St. John, 651 ft. 15½ in. casing in shale.

Hopefield, Christ Church, 1,030 ft. 15½ in. casing in oceanics.

VI. BANKS.

100. In addition to the two Banks, the Colonial Bank (paid-up Capital £900,000) and Royal Bank of Canada (paid-up Capital £3,541,666), which have been doing business for several years in Barbados, a third, the Canadian Bank of Commerce, with a paid-up Capital of £3,150,000, opened a branch in Bridgetown during the year.

101. There is a Government Savings Bank, which had, on 31st December, 1920, 13,057 depositors, and deposits amounting to £686,975 10*s.* 1*d.*

102. The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was formed in 1907, in circumstances and for objects set forth below.

103. In the year 1902 a sum of £250,000 was granted by the Imperial Parliament in aid of the sugar industry of the West Indies and British Guiana, of which total £80,000 was allocated to Barbados. Just about that time the sugar planters were finding it exceedingly difficult to obtain advances from the Colonial Bank to enable them to keep their estates in cultivation, as many of these planters had not been able to repay the loans made to them on the security of their crops, owing to the very low price for which their produce had been selling.

104. The Local Government therefore considered that the best way to utilise the grant of £80,000 was to keep it intact as a reserve fund on which to raise the necessary money for working the plantations, and thereby provide employment for the agricultural labourers of the Island.

105. An Act called " The Plantations in Aid Act," 1902, was passed to carry out the above-mentioned object, and this Act proved so beneficial to the planters that it was renewed each year until the year 1906, after which it was decided to rest the original grant of £80,000 with all the accretions of interest that had been

made during the years 1902–06 in a bank to be styled "The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank," which Bank was to be conducted by seven persons who would form the board of management, the chairman being the Colonial Secretary for the time being, four members being appointed by the House of Assembly annually, one by the Legislative Council, and one by the Agricultural Society.

106. The amount loaned for the year 1st June, 1920, to 31st May, 1921, was £538,302 17*s.* 6*d.*, loaned to 154 different owners. The profit for the year amounted to £1,296 15*s.* 10½*d.* and is below the average. This is because of the abnormal amount of £462,107 4*s.* 2*d* for loans which were outstanding and due to the Bank at 31st May, 1921, since the practice of the Bank has always been to count as income for the year only such interest as has been received during that year, and of taking no account of accrued interest that has not been received.

107. The total funds of the Bank, at 31st May, 1921, amounted to £148,265 0*s.* 11*d.*

VII. LEGISLATION.

108. The following Acts, which may be of interest outside the Colony, were passed during the year :—

(1) 1920–2.—An Act to make provision for the Licensing of Foreign Banks doing business in this Island.

(2) 1920–7.—An Act to repeal an Act to prohibit the importation of Bounty-fed Sugar.

(3) 1920–18.—An Act to make better provision for Securing Safety to the Shipping in the Harbours, Bays and other Waters of this Island.

(4) 1920–33.—An Act to authorise the Western Telegraph Company Limited, to establish and maintain a Telegraph Cable to and from the Island of Barbados.

(5) 1920–40.—An Act to authorise the Western Union Telegraph Company Limited to establish and maintain a Telegraph Cable to and from the Island of Barbados.

VIII. EDUCATION.

109. For local convenience the schools of the Colony are divided into three classes :—Elementary, Second-Grade, and First-Grade. The elementary school corresponds in most details to the English schools of this type, and the education given in the first and second-grade schools corresponds to English secondary education.

110. There are no Government schools as this term is understood. There is a central administrative board, but each elementary school is under a local committee consisting of the minister of the district and two laymen appointed annually by the Central

Board. Each first and second-grade school is under the authority of a governing body, constituted in accordance with schemes framed by the Central Board.

111. Education is not compulsory. There are no continuation schools or classes, nor is any provision made for technical or industrial education.

112. At the beginning of 1920 there were 138 elementary schools in operation. At the close of the year this number had been reduced to 136. In addition to these there were three ragged schools which provide the elements of knowledge for very poor children who are unable to attend the ordinary elementary school.

113. During 1920 the number of pupils on the registers, exclusive of the three ragged schools, was 19,275, and the average daily attendance was 11,210. The pressure of economic conditions, which was greater in 1920 than in 1919, has caused a further decline in the attendance. With the return of normal conditions there will doubtless be an improvement. The large majority of the children attending these schools belong to the agricultural class, and only a small percentage goes beyond Standard IV. This standard is equivalent to the factory standard recognised in countries in which compulsory education exists.

114. The children who reach the higher standards are sufficiently intelligent to benefit by vocational training and would make excellent material for technical and industrial courses.

115. By means of exhibitions the elementary schools are linked up with the first and second-grade schools, and winners of these exhibitions have eventually won scholarships tenable at English Universities.

116. To a moderate extent, provision is made in the elementary schools for manual instruction.

117. The cost of elementary education during 1920, including the training of teachers and the upkeep of buildings, was £22,768; of this sum £21,743 was provided by the Central Government, and £1,025 by the parochial authorities.

118. The number of second-grade schools was the same as during the past several years: five for boys and one for girls.

119. The curriculum in these schools embraces English, Mathematics, Latin, French, Spanish and commercial subjects. The upper forms are entered for the Cambridge Local Junior and Senior Examinations, and the students acquit themselves very creditably. Pupils who leave these schools find no difficulty in obtaining work in mercantile offices and in banks. Some become teachers, while others secure employment on sugar estates.

120. Cadet Companies and Scout Troops exist in connection with some of these boys' schools, and the training given has produced satisfactory results.

121. The cost of second grade education inclusive of exhibitions, was £1,764 during 1920, and the attendance during the year was 422.

122. The number of first-grade schools was three, two for boys and one for girls.

123. The range of work in the two first-grade schools for boys extends from elementary instruction in the preparatory form to the level of open scholarships at the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

124. The fourth form is entered for the Cambridge Junior Local Examination and the fifth and sixth forms for the Oxford and Cambridge Lower and Higher Certificate Examinations, and the results are, in general, satisfactory. A scholarship, called the "Barbados Scholarship," is annually competed for by boys of these two schools. This scholarship is tenable for four years at any university or college in Europe, Canada or the United States of America. In 1920 this Scholarship was awarded to a Science candidate in accordance with the recommendation of the Examiners appointed by the Cambridge Syndicate.

125. The range of the work in the girls' first-grade school extends from elementary instruction to the level required for the Senior Cambridge Local and the London Universities Examination. Girls are also prepared for the South Kensington and Ablett Drawing Examinations. The progress made by all these schools is satisfactory and they afford a liberal education for the boys and girls of the Colony.

126. Flourishing Cadet Companies exist in connection with the three boys' schools, and girls' guide troops have recently been started in connection with the girls' schools and have achieved remarkable success. This movement is also being extended to the elementary schools.

127. The cost of first-grade education during 1920 was £3,566, and the number of pupils in attendance was 439.

128. University education is also obtainable in the Colony. Codrington College, founded early in the 18th century, is affiliated to the University of Durham. This college receives no financial aid from the Government beyond the four Island Scholarships of £40 each per annum which are tenable there. The number of students in attendance during 1920 was 13.

IX. COMMUNICATIONS.

(*a*) EXTERNAL.

129. The contract for a regular fortnightly mail service to and from the United Kingdom which had previously been supplied by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company was abandoned during the War and has not been resumed since. It is, of course, very desirable that the colony should have regular steamship communication with the United Kingdom.

130. A regular service with Canada is maintained by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, calling at Bermuda, St. Kitts, Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, Barbados, the Southern Islands and British Guiana. In October the Canadian Government Merchant Marine, Ltd., started regular fortnightly sailings from Halifax and Montreal, calling at Barbados, Trinidad and Demerara, and returning viâ same ports.

131. The following steamship lines carried mails during 1920:

From the United Kingdom, at fairly regular periods, the Harrison Line, sailing from London, Liverpool and Glasgow, and the Leyland Line from Liverpool.

From the United States of America, viâ the Northern Islands to Barbados, the "Quebec" Steamship Line. These vessels frequently proceed to Trinidad and Demerara, returning to Barbados on their way north. Steamers of the Lamport and Holt, Booth, Lloyd Braziliero, Norton Lilly, New Orleans and South American, and the Raporel Lines to and from the United States and South American ports, and steamers of the Royal Italian Line "La Veloce" from Mediterranean ports to Colon also called here at irregular periods.

132. The length of passage from the United Kingdom is 15 to 17 days, from Halifax and New York 14 days (viâ Northern Islands) and 7½ days by direct opportunity.

133. Communication with the other West Indian Islands is also maintained by sailing vessels at irregular intervals.

134. The following table shows the number and tonnage of ships which entered the port of Bridgetown during the year 1920.

Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.
341	1,436,075	976	168,839	1,317	1,604,914

135. As compared with 1919, 343 less steamers entered, but the number of sailing vessels increased by 220. The total decrease was, therefore, 123. Nineteen men-of-war also visited the port during the year.

136. There is a station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at Barbados, and direct cable communication with St. Vincent, and thence to the other West Indies, America and Europe. The company receives an annual subsidy of £1,500 from Barbados.

The Western Telegraph Company applied for and obtained a licence to land a cable in Barbados. This cable was connected with Brazil on the 20th September, 1920, and opened to general traffic.

137. There is also a small Government Wireless Telegraph Station erected during the War as a War station and utilised since the signing of the Armistice for ship to shore and shore to ship commercial traffic.

(*b*) INTERNAL.

138. The Barbados Government Railway has 28 miles of line from Bridgetown to St. Andrew.

139. The gauge is 2 ft. 6 in. and £51,785 has been spent on the reconstruction of the line since its purchase by the Government in 1916 to date.

140. The line, however, follows the coast for the greater part of its course, and most of the produce of the Island is consequently conveyed to the port by road and not by rail.

141. There is an elaborate system of roads throughout the Island, 473 miles of roads being suitable to motor vehicles ; the wear and tear on the roads is, however, very heavy, and their present condition leaves much to be desired.

142. An American private tramway company maintains a service of mule drawn tramway cars throughout Bridgetown and suburbs.

143. There is no telegraph line in Barbados but telephonic communication is maintained by the Barbados Telephone Company, Ltd., a private company, with 1,402 services and about 2,533 miles of line in use.

144. The Post Office does a considerable and increasing parcels post business with the countries to which Barbadians emigrate,

viz., Canada, the United States of America and Panama. Many persons of the labouring classes have also emigrated to Cuba, but no money order nor parcels post systems exist between Cuba and Barbados. The emigrants in the majority of cases remit their money in American currency by registered letter post or by drafts on the Royal Bank of Canada. The central office is in Bridgetown with ten country offices, five of which transact money order business. Four deliveries of mails are made daily in Bridgetown, and one delivery daily in the rural districts of the Island.

FRANCIS JENKINS,
Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Barbados.
18*th June*, 1921.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page :—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1052	Zanzibar	1919
1053	Gambia	,,
1054	Uganda	1918–1919
1055	Malta	1919–1920
1056	Swaziland	,,
1057	Bechuanaland Protectorate	,,
1058	Ashanti	1919
1059	Bahamas	1919–1920
1060	British Solomon Islands	,,
1061	Seychelles	,,
1062	Mauritius	,,
1063	St. Vincent	April–December 1919
1064	Nigeria	1919
1065	Sierra Leone	,,
1066	Gold Coast	,,
1067	Jamaica	1919–1920
1068	British Guiana	1919
1069	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1070	British Honduras	,,
1071	Hong Kong	,,
1072	Barbados	1919–1920
1073	East Africa Protectorate	1918–1919
1074	Leeward Islands	1919–1920
1075	Nyasaland	,,
1076	Falkland Islands	1919
1077	Bermuda	1920
1078	Grenada	,,
1079	Uganda	1919–1920
1080	Fiji	1920
1081	Gibraltar	,,
1082	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	1919
1083	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1920–1921
1084	St. Helena	1920
1085	Basutoland	1920–1921
1086	Ceylon	1920

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
82	Imperial Institute	Rubber and Gutta-percha.
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oilseeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1134.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1921-22.

(For Report for 1920-21 see No. 1087.)

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No. 1134.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1921-22.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North, and longitude 59° 37′ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 940 to the square mile. In size it is therefore comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras; in climate, to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them " Los Barbados " on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship " Olive Blossom " in the name of King James I.

4. James I granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough, and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonize the Island. Some thirty settlers landed on the leeward coast, and founded Holetown.

5. Charles I, in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of pre-occupation against Lord Carlisle, and, under this last grant, the " Leeward " settlers at Holetown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's " Windward " settlers, who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died, leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an Act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados, and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the government when the Commonwealth was established, though many Royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

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9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim and the heirs of Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all the liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a 4½ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor. Members of the Assembly are elected annually.

16. Barbados is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by residents in neighbouring colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito (the carrier of malaria) is not found in the Island. This is a somewhat curious fact, since it is certain that they must be imported not infrequently in vessels which in many cases lie in the " Careenage " or inner harbour for considerable periods, on arrival from places where they are prevalent. The conditions, however, are evidently unfavourable to their breeding ashore.

18. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and between November and May

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the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° F. For the greater part of the year the temperature is delightfully equable, and the heat is seldom oppressive. Few places, indeed, enjoy a more pleasant climate. The winter months are regarded as the "Tourist Season."

19. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks are unknown.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

1. The year 1920–21 (1st April, 1920, to 31st March, 1921) is recorded in the annual general report for that year as "probably the most prosperous year ever known in Barbados," but the great "slump" in the sugar market which began in August, 1920, made it clear that a difficult time was to follow. The year 1921–22 can be described with equal accuracy as probably one of the most difficult which the Colony has experienced in recent times. The report which follows covers a time of unusual depression; details of its various aspects will be found throughout the different sections. The depression was, of course, not confined to Barbados, but the existence of depressed conditions elsewhere naturally aggravated the difficulties of the local situation.

2. The year was marked locally by a very scanty rainfall, a poor sugar crop, and unfavourable health conditions. Few places are so greatly dependent on the fluctuations of a single industry as Barbados. In 1921, of a total export of local produce and manufacture valued at £973,650, the value of sugar, molasses and rum was returned at £934,634. In 1920 the value of these exports was £3,521,901. These figures sufficiently indicate not only the severity of the depression from which the staple support of the island suffered, but also the very great fluctuations to which this industry is exposed. When to the failure in sugar is added a general slackness in trade affecting both the shipping and coaling trade of the Island and the considerable entrepôt and transit trade it can easily be realised that the strain on its resources was very great.

3. This condition was reflected in the Government finances. The year opened with a debit balance of £3,770, and closed with a debit balance of £65,401. The revenue from ordinary sources fell off by over £60,000, while the ordinary expenditure remained at the same level. The estimates compiled at the end of the previous year provided for an expenditure of £393,000 and a revenue of only £263,000, leaving a deficit of £130,000 to be met by taxation or special measures in a period of commercial

stagnation. Various circumstances, referred to in the financial section, combined to make the final result of the year's operations less unfavourable than the prospect shown in the estimates, but after the unexampled prosperity of the early portion of the preceding year the change was truly depressing.

4. In these circumstances, all effort had to be concentrated on economy, and various schemes in prospect were abandoned or postponed, notably the erection of a lighthouse at the north end of the Island, a long-felt want, enlargement of the Police Barracks, and the opening of additional accommodation at the Boys' Industrial School. On the other hand, the decline in the prices of commodities which occurred during the year, though considerable, was not sufficient or did not come early enough to allow of any marked decrease in the general costs of administration.

5. An Income Tax Law was passed in September, but could not be put into operation till the following year, when the assessment was made on the results of 1921 instead of on the large profits earned in 1920.

6. The sugar crop exported (36,000 tons) was the result of two years' continued dry weather, the rainfall for 1920, on which the results of the 1921 crop (reaped in February to June) mainly depend, having been only 42·55 inches, which was over 21 inches below the average of the preceding five years. As the crop was produced under exceptionally costly conditions, all preparations having taken place in a period of very high prices, and the price had fallen to about one-fourth of the record figures ruling in 1920, the losses of estates were very heavy. On 31st May, 1921, the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank returns showed that out of £538,302 loaned in 1920–21 to 154 owners, £462,107 was still outstanding. The financial results of the crop are by no means complete at this date, but the amount outstanding was quite unprecedented.

7. This position had naturally led to a severe restriction of credit on the part of the banks, which made the financing of the 1922 crop a difficult matter. Further details of the position will be found in the financial section. The difficulty was partly overcome but not removed, and as the outlook for the 1922 crop towards the end of 1921 was also singularly unpromising, proposals were made that the Government should come to the assistance of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank by guaranteeing advances to be made during the latter part of 1922 for the cultivation of the crop of 1923. The results of the 1922 crop, owing to late rains, proved more favourable than had at first been anticipated, but still involved losses to the very great majority of estates. Meanwhile, after considerable discussion and negotiation, proposals had been formulated by which the Government undertook to guarantee advances made to the Sugar Industry Bank for the purposes of the 1923 crop; on this condition the banks undertook

to advance up to £450,000 for this purpose. As, however, the guarantee was confined to loans made through the Sugar Bank to owners and others who were not in a position to secure funds by other means, it is probable that the amount required will not reach this figure.

8. This was an unusual measure, justified, however, by the imperative necessity of securing that estates shall in no circumstances be allowed to go out of cultivation. With a population of 940 persons to the square mile, the majority of whom are directly or indirectly dependent on the employment offered by sugar estates or in the handling of the sugar crop, the results of any serious interruption in the cultivation of estates can be easily realised.

9. The position has not been made easier by the fact that during the " boom " preceding the present period of " hard times " many estates changed hands at very high prices, and are now burdened with a capital outlay which present conditions are quite unable to support. The full consequences of this situation have not yet revealed themselves, but instances have occurred of purchases made at high prices during the boom being subsequently abandoned with the loss of large instalments of the purchase price.

10. The high cost of living referred to in the 1920 Report was mitigated to an appreciable extent during 1921, particularly in the latter part of the year. An estimate of the cost of a number of commodities in common use made early in 1922 showed a reduction in the average prices to about 80 per cent. over 1914 standards as compared with 220 per cent. in August, 1920. Naturally, in the conditions, existing wages also declined. It is very difficult to give an all-round figure which would convey a correct general idea of the decline owing to the great variations in rates for different classes of work and in different seasons. Perhaps an increase of from 25 to 50 per cent. over 1914 rates would give a rough idea of the present standard.

11. The depression in sugar leading to a serious situation in Cuba involved many Barbadians who had emigrated there during the prosperous period in acute distress, and numerous appeals for repatriation were received. A number were repatriated under the term of their contract, but many more remained without assistance in a very distressed situation.

12. Climatically, the year was remarkable for a continuance of the drought which had been a feature of 1920, and at one time the outlook for the crop to be reaped in 1922 was very bad. Late rains, however, improved the prospects, and the results, though far from good, were much better than was at one time expected. The average rainfall for the year throughout the Island was 40·72 inches, varying at different observation points from 32·52 inches to 56·20 inches in the high lands of St. Thomas. The heaviest fall was in October (7·10 inches). The maximum mean temperature for the year was 84·7°, and the minimum

72·8° F. The highest single observation was 88·7° in August, and the lowest 64·4° in January. The mean relative humidity was 63·4°.

13. In September a severe gale or " blow " was experienced which did some damage to smaller shipping and to the wharf frontage. Two schooners parted their moorings, one being driven ashore, and the other which was disembarking labourers from Cuba being blown out to sea with over 200 passengers still on board. After a distressing experience this vessel reached St. Lucia.

14. The scanty rainfall of the last few years has led to a serious diminution in the water supply, and it became necessary to restrict supplies strictly to domestic uses, all supplies for estate purposes, garden watering, street flushing, etc., being cut off. The wells from which the Government supply is drawn are fed by percolation through the coral rock to an impervious clay bed, and it is probable that the stored natural reserve within the radius of the Government pumping stations had begun to be exhausted during the dry cycle. It requires several months' good rain to replenish the underground storage, and it will take some time before the supply can return to its former abundance. A search is being carried out for fresh wells to augment the available supply. There is no reason to doubt that a plentiful supply of underground water is still available provided the most favourable points for tapping it can be ascertained. The purity of the water remained unimpaired.

15. The year was decidedly unfortunate from a health standpoint, as the heavy mortality shows. Enteric fever reached serious proportions, and outbreaks of dysentery were also recorded. The prevalence of these diseases cannot be connected with defects in water supply, but no doubt the dry conditions favouring dust and flies were an aggravating cause.

16. Though the record of 1921–22 reads as one of almost unrelieved depression, it would be entirely wrong to picture the Colony as being by any means in a desperate situation. In spite of the depressed conditions, there was no trace of social unsettlement—indeed, the criminal records for the year showed a marked decline in the number of offences—and the commercial stagnation was supported without serious failures. These facts are a very striking testimony to the commercial stability of the Island and the steadiness of the population in face of hard times; the reserves accumulated in the preceding period of prosperity also no doubt served to steady the position. The sugar crop, on which the Island depends, possesses remarkable recuperative powers, which the community as a whole appear to share. At the time of writing, the outlook is unquestionably more hopeful, and, given one or two reasonably favourable years, the Colony will undoubtedly weather the period of depression without permanent ill effects.

17. In January, 1922, the Colony received a visit from the Colonial Office Mission, headed by the Hon. E. F. L. Wood, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State. Mr. Wood and his party visited many parts of the Island and were enabled to meet and gain first-hand knowledge of local conditions from members of the Legislature, the Chamber of Commerce, and parochial bodies. The opportunity was taken to set before the Mission the position of the sugar industry and the measures proposed for its support, which received most sympathetic consideration. The frank discussion of the situation with a representative of His Majesty's Government was of great value in shaping the measures ultimately determined upon. The questions of Imperial preference and of telegraphic communications and steamship freights were also discussed with the Chamber of Commerce.

18. Barbados had no political problems to lay before the Under-Secretary of State, but there can be no question that the opportunity of personal discussion with a representative of His Majesty's Government of the general economic position in the Island, as well as various problems of common interest to the West Indian Colonies, was very highly appreciated, and that visits such as this must have an invaluable influence in establishing mutual understanding and confidence between the Colony and the responsible Department of His Majesty's Government. It can be confidently asserted that the frequent repetition of such visits would be warmly welcomed by the entire community without a dissentient section. Even if no question of immediate practical importance awaits examination (which can very rarely be the case) their psychological value can scarcely be overstated.

III.—FINANCIAL.

(1) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

19. The revenue and expenditure for the last five years has been as follows:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1917–18	399,969	456,303
1918–19	347,497	347,817
1919–20	420,136	351,851
1920–21	454,286	508,391
1921–22	340,814	409,055

Receipts and expenditure of all descriptions, including loans and special expenditure, are included in the above figures. Thus in 1920–21 a local loan of £40,000 raised for certain public works is included on both sides of the account; in that year the expenditure was further swelled by a sum of £58,000, representing the loss on sale of a large purchase of sugar made by the Government during the period of high prices to ensure an adequate supply for local use, which was sold after the fall in the market at a heavy loss.

20. The totals for 1921–22 more nearly represent the normal revenue and expenditure, but the receipts include a sum of £8,589 reimbursed from loan funds on account of expenditure chargeable to loans which had been temporarily met from the Treasury, and the expenditure, a sum of £10,590 disbursed on services ultimately chargeable to loans.

21. The collapse of the sugar market in August, 1920, naturally had an immediate and depressing effect on the financial position of the Government generally, in addition to the large actual loss involved in the sale of the sugar referred to above. The estimates for 1921–22 compiled in the face of this situation provided for a revenue of £263,482 and an expenditure of £393,883, and the year opened with a debit balance of £3,770. The actual results of the year's operations were less unfavourable than was foreshadowed by the estimates, owing in part to increases in taxation introduced with a view to strengthening the revenue.

22. The principal changes in taxation were the introduction in June, 1921, of the new preferential tariff provided for in the Canada–West Indies Agreement of 1920, under which the *ad valorem* duties were fixed at 10 per cent. for the preferential, and 20 per cent. for the ordinary rate. Excise duty on rum was raised to 5*s*. per gallon, tonnage dues were increased by 25 per cent., and certain licence fees also raised. The Income Tax Law which had been under consideration for a considerable time was finally passed in September, 1921, but no tax was collected during the year under report.

23. These changes were far from sufficient to balance the budget, and it was necessary to have recourse to temporary borrowings, arranged partly through the Government Savings Bank, from which £20,000 was advanced, and partly through the Colonial Bank on overdraft, by which £65,000 was obtained. At the end of the year there was an excess of liabilities over assets of £65,401, and a floating debt of £85,401. Arrangements have since been made for the liquidation of the debt of £65,000 due to the Colonial Bank by means of ten-year debentures at 6 per cent.

24. The position improved towards the end of the year, and the estimates for 1922–23 provide for a balance between revenue and expenditure including provision for all loan charges, so that no further recourse to borrowing for current expenditure should be necessary.

25. A statement of assets and liabilities on 31st March, 1922, is given below with explanatory notes.*

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 31ST MARCH, 1922.

Liabilities.

	£	s.	d.
(1) Due to Colonial Bank on overdraft ...	65,365	0	4
To Savings Bank	20,000	0	0
Unpaid Vouchers on 31st March	2,917	11	2
Vouchers under Audit on 31st March ...	531	4	11
(2) Outstanding Liabilities on unexpended Votes for 1921–22	22,804	0	0
	111,617	16	5

Assets.

	£	s.	d.
Surplus Fund Account	1,127	14	0½
(1) Authorized Advances	31,195	14	5
With Crown Agents	7,255	4	6
Bills and Remittances	679	1	8
In Treasury	720	10	0
(2) Police Tax Arrears	350	3	4
(2) Water Rates Arrears	2,684	7	10
Due Treasury from Loan Funds	2,203	4	8
Excess of Liabilities over Assets	65,401	15	11½
	111,617	16	5

* NOTES: *Liabilities.*

(1) Provision has since been made to liquidate this by a debenture issue. (*Vide* paragraph 23.)

(2) This is usually included in the statement of liabilities, but the full amount is never expended, a considerable part "lapsing" to the Treasury.

Assets.

(1) "Authorised Advances" is a constant feature of the Treasury Accounts, and includes sums advanced on Post Office Money Order Account, advances on behalf of other Colonies, advances for purchase of stores, and other advances. For 1921–22 the advances stand at a larger total than usual owing to an increase of £20,000 in the advance authorised for purchase of water works, stores and supplies. It has not, however, been customary to show the value of stores on hand among the assets. Stores on hand on the 31st March were valued at approximately £37,652.

(2) Arrears of taxes have usually been shown among assets in this Colony, though the full amount shown is never realised.

26. Brief detail notes on revenue and expenditure are appended.

REVENUE.

27. Customs and Excise Duties form the most important items in the Revenue Schedule, being responsible for about two-thirds of the total; reimbursements for services, including Post Office Receipts, Railway Receipts, Water Works Revenue, Wireless Telegraph Revenue, and other miscellaneous reimbursements represent a little less than one-fourth; and Port Dues, Stamp Duties, Fees, Fines and certain Miscellaneous Licences and Taxes the remainder. The distribution of revenue described above will be varied by the introduction of the Income Tax, but no receipts under this head are included in the year 1921–22. The estimate of receipts for 1922–23 is £16,000. This figure cannot, however, be accepted as normal, as the year 1921 on which the assessment was made was a very unfavourable one.

28. Customs receipts for 1921–22 totalled £164,498, a decrease of £37,850 on the receipts for the previous year. Excise duties, owing to increase in the rate, were maintained and realised £55,329, being £1,831 more than in the previous year. There were increases under the heads of Police Tax and Waterworks also, owing to increase in the rates, viz.:—

Police Tax ... ... £6,191—an increase of £2,045.
Water Works ... ... £24,303—an increase of £4,130.

The Wireless Telegraph Station returned a revenue of £4,022, but this included receipts from previous years which had been held in a Suspense Account. The actual revenue for the year was £600.

29. Most other heads of revenue showed decreases, the largest being:—

Stamp Duties, £9,096—a decrease of £8,120 on receipts for 1920–21.
Post Office, £17,247—a decrease of £8,100 on receipts for 1920–21.
Railway, £12,653—a decrease of £4,556 on receipts for 1920–21.

The decrease in Post Office receipts was due to the special features connected with exchange on Money Orders, but that shown by the Stamp Duties and Railway Receipts is a reflection of the depressed conditions.

EXPENDITURE.

30. The expenditure for the year presented no very special features, the comparatively large amount being due to the continuing high cost of materials and ordinary expenses of administration and to increased rates of pay and wages made necessary by the cost of living. The largest spending Departments are the

Police, Education Department, Medical Department (which includes Hospital, Lazaretto and Lunatic Asylum) and the Waterworks. The expenditure on these Departments was as follows:—

Police, £41,520—a decrease of £1,421 compared with 1920–21.

Education, £32,220—an increase of £962 compared with 1920–21.

Medical, £49,991—an increase of £5,368 compared with 1920–21.

Water Works, £49,500—a decrease of £12,913 compared with 1920–21.

The total expenditure on the four Departments being £173,231, which represents about half of the total normal expenses of administration, excluding special charges.

31. The increase in the case of the Medical Departments was due to a special grant to the General Hospital for certain extensions of their work, the execution of which was, however, postponed to a great extent owing to financial conditions. The grant was, however, paid over.

32. The decrease in the Water Works expenditure was due to the shutting down of services owing to shortage of supply and to the transfer to the Harbour Master's Department of the waterboat service for supply of shipping. The Water Works expenditure includes £16,875 for loan charges on the loan for purchase of the system by the Government. If this be omitted from consideration the cost of maintenance and operation was £32,625, against which a revenue of £24,303 was received. It must be recollected that the Department supplies the large majority of the population free through the " standpipes " on public roads.

33. Charges for Debt, £17,550, showed an increase of £4,577, and Public Works an increase of £4,320, owing to more extensive repairs being required after the rigid economy of the war period. Railway expenditure, £22,344, was £3,275 more than in the previous year, owing principally to renewals of plant.

34. The cost of bonus and additional temporary emoluments to the Civil Service and Clergy was £20,783, and for Elementary School Teachers £5,705. The latter amount should, perhaps, be added to the cost of the Education Department, as the emoluments of the school teachers have been fixed for the future on an increased scale roughly equivalent to the former rates plus the bonus payments.

(2) Public Debt.

35. The Public Debt on 31st March, 1922, was £561,500, and the face value of the Sinking Funds £205,605. The largest single item is the Water Works Loan of £375,000, raised for the purchase of the water supply system in 1895. Of the remainder, about £109,000 has been expended at various dates on the construction of public works, purchase and enlargement of buildings, etc.; about £20,000 having been spent from loan funds on the

repair of wharf walls since 1881. A sum of £65,000 has been spent since 1916 on the purchase and reconstruction of the railway.

The annual charges for interest and sinking fund total £28,000, exclusive of the charges incurred in connection with debentures issued to cover the deficit on 1921–22 which are not included in the above totals.

(3) BANKS.

36. (*a*) *Savings Bank.*—The total sum to the credit of depositors on 31st December, 1921, was £611,806, and the value of invested funds £678,818. The number of depositors was 12,859. The corresponding figures for 1920 were: deposits £686,975, value of invested funds £739,913, number of depositors 13,057. The use of the bank is not confined to small depositors.

37. (*b*) *Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.*—This bank, which was established in 1906 with the proceeds of the special grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Government in 1902 towards the assistance of the sugar industry in Barbados, now plays a very important part in the financial arrangements of that industry and of the Colony.

38. The original capital of the Bank (£80,000) has been augmented by the profits of successive years until at the end of May, 1922, it was given at £159,000. The whole amount is placed in loans to planters, and in addition it has been customary for the Bank to borrow considerable sums from commercial banks for the purpose of loans made to planters under the special security of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1907. Thus, on 31st May, 1921 (the Agricultural Bank year is from 1st June to 31st May), there were outstanding loans to planters amounting to £462,107, and the Bank owed the Commercial Banks about £325,000. In these circumstances, the Commercial Banks were not prepared to continue advances for the year 1921–22, and, in view of the heavy losses in sugar sustained by many in 1920–21, and the poor results of the 1921 crop, the position of the Sugar Bank was a difficult one.

39. The Sugar Bank was accordingly not in a position to make advances for the 1922 crop at first, but the difficulty was partly overcome by arrangements made by various merchants and others to make loans to estates through the Sugar Bank on the security of certificates given by borrowers under the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act to the Sugar Bank and transferred to the lenders. A limited overdraft was also negotiated at a later stage with the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The direct advances by the Bank for the 1921–22 crop, however, totalled only £74,305, very much less than normal.

40. The Sugar Bank also took the unaccustomed course of inviting deposits from private depositors, on which 6 per cent. interest was paid. About £1[illegible]0,000 was received in this way, and, by this means and by the aid of repayments of loans during

1921–22, the debts due to the Colonial Bank and Royal Bank of Canada were paid off.

41. On 31st May, 1922, the loans outstanding had been reduced to £260,753, and the Bank owed to depositors £109,206 and to the Canadian Bank of Commerce £28,555. This was a great improvement on the position at the end of May, 1921, but still left the Bank unable to make advances to estates from its own resources. In view of this, negotiations were set on foot early in 1922 to secure advances from the three Commercial Banks to finance the 1922–23 crop on the strength of a Government guarantee. This guarantee, which extends to the operations of the year 1922–23 only and also to the sums due to private depositors, is embodied in two Acts passed in May, 1922, by which the Government undertakes to issue debentures for any unredeemed balance of advances made to finance the 1922–23 crop. Conditions are laid down restricting the grant of loans under this scheme to those who are not in a position to finance their estates from other resources, and giving the Government a first call on the funds of the Sugar Bank to secure debentures issued.

42. Although the position of the Bank has been made difficult by the sudden collapse in the sugar industry in 1920, and the succeeding poor crops, the security afforded for outstanding loans is sound, and if the results of the next two years' crops are reasonably good, the Bank should recover its formerly strong position without much difficulty and possibly without any call on the Government under the guarantee scheme.

IV.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

Imports and Exports.

43. The total value of imports and exports for the last five years is given below:—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
1917	2,285,278	2,190,114
1918	2,986,006	2,480,646
1919	3,893,458	3,305,382
1920	5,145,537	4,865,894
1921	2,642,273	1,467,903

It will be observed that there is a regular and appreciable excess in the value of imports over that of exports. As the export figures include the value of bunker coal supplied to shipping, it would appear that the explanation must be sought for in the "invisible" earnings, particularly the proceeds of investments abroad and earnings abroad remitted to the Colony. Quite an appreciable sum is remitted annually through the Post Office from Barbadians abroad. In 1920, the amount so remitted totalled £96,076, but fell off in 1921 to £38,816. In addition to remittances through the Money Order service those through the Banks must also be taken into account.

44. It may be well to explain that the figures given as to trade apply to the calendar year 1921.

45. The whole economic life of the Colony is based on the sugar crop, and the greatly diminished import and export returns for the year 1921 are a reflection of what might almost be termed a disastrous year for sugar. Fuller details are given below under the head of "Agriculture."

IMPORTS.

46. Excluding bullion and specie and trade in transit, there was a net decrease in the value of imports of £2,333,732. The decrease was fairly generally distributed though naturally more marked in articles other than foodstuffs. A few typical instances are given.

VALUE OF IMPORTS.

	1920. £	1921. £
Apparel	49,207	12,818
Bags and sacks	37,113	3,341
Boots and shoes	40,143	16,259
Motor vehicles	31,577	8,595
Cotton piece goods	218,939	75,730
Other manufactures	56,480	24,878
Iron and steel manufactures ...	59,601	30,121
Woollen goods	31,484	5,140

In considering these figures, account must be taken of the lower prices prevailing in 1921, and of the improvement in sterling exchange in the case of goods imported from Canada and the United States of America. But after making due allowance for these factors the figures sufficiently indicate the great decrease in purchasing power involved in a bad sugar year.

47. The only marked exception to the general downward trend was the importation of sugar machinery, of which £108,000 worth was imported, as compared with £20,000 in 1920. This was due to orders placed in more prosperous times being executed during the depressed period.

EXPORTS.

48. The decrease in value of sugar and molasses shipped during 1921 was as follows:—

	1920. £	1921. £	*Decrease.* £
Sugar	2,203,052	515,187	1,687,865
Molasses	1,310,524	403,927	906,597

49. *Rum.*—25,867 gallons were exported as compared with 30,310 in 1920, but the value increased to £15,520 as compared with £6,820.

50. *Cotton.*—71,519 lb. were exported, valued at £6,498, an increase of 50,000 lb. in quantity and £4,993 in value over 1920.

51. The average prices prevailing for staple articles during the last five years are given below:—

	1917.			1918.			1919.			1920.			1921.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Sugar, per ton	20	10	0	20	10	0	28	10	0	63	15	0	22	10	0
Molasses, per gallon ...		1	1½		1	7½		1	10		3	1		1	5
Cotton, per lb.		2	2		4	0		4	0		1	5		1	10
Rum, per gallon		2	1		2	6		8	0		4	6		12	0

Minor Products.

52. Cotton Seed Meal and Cake to the value of £8,323 (quantity 1,468,880 lb.) was exported as compared with 49,000 lb., valued at £205, in the previous year.

Manjak: 109 tons, value £2,844, as against 91 tons, value £2,274 in 1921.

Lime (Building): 7,965 bags, value £398, as against 40,145 bags, value £2,007 in 1921.

Fresh Vegetables: £4,947 worth were exported, as against only £11 in 1921.

53. The total value of minor articles of local produce exported was £34,518, as compared with £38,183 in 1921.

Coaling Trade.

54. This trade was severely affected by the prevailing depression. Seventy-nine steamers were supplied with 28,596 tons of coal, as compared with 215 vessels supplied with 74,599 tons in 1920. The value of coal supplied was returned at £74,339, as against £484,894 in the previous year.

Transit Trade.

55. The value of goods entered for transhipment was £166,075.

Direction of Trade.

56. The import trade for 1921 was distributed as follows, according to origin and value:—

	£
From United Kingdom	947,442
Canada	594,365
Other parts of British Empire	336,628
United States of America	585,381
Foreign countries	178,457
	2,642,273

57. The following table shows the sources of imports for the last five years, given in percentage:—

	1917. Per cent.	1918. Per cent.	1919. Per cent.	1920. Per cent.	1921. Per cent.
United Kingdom	27·5	20·0	19·0	30·3	35·9
Canada	15·3	16·3	18·6	18·5	22·5
Other parts of British Empire	15·8	21·4	18·3	12·3	12·7
United States of America ...	37·3	34·8	39·8	35·7	22·2
Other foreign countries	4·1	7·5	4·3	3·2	6·7

The new tariff giving a 50 per cent. preference on imports of British origin in accordance with the Canada–West Indies Trade Agreement of 1920 was introduced in June, 1921, but it is too soon to gauge its effect with any certainty, more especially in view of the general depression of trade and the fluctuations in exchange occurring in that year. It is satisfactory to note, however, that 71 per cent. of the imports were of British origin.

58. The following list of certain principal articles of imports from Canada and the United States of America, with their values, may be of interest:—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	1,374	6,136
Butter	4,322	27,320
Oilmeal	39,876	3,548
Cornmeal	2,668	39,562
Flour	202,386	39,918
Oats	68,814	40
Salt meats	14,843	66,329
White pine, spruce	36,064	3,603
Pitch pine	—	27,836
Shingles	10,577	—
Vegetables, fresh	6,322	588

59. The export trade according to destinations is given below, only produce and manufactures of the Colony are shown:—

	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.
	£	£	£	£	£
To United Kingdom	509,863	391,101	343,887	1,055,346	105,687
,, Canada	861,901	850,419	1,470,193	1,266,134	653,332
,, Other parts of British Empire	118,047	200,021	207,681	300,165	137,183
,, United States of America ...	105,263	174,086	87,290	567,251	67,429
,, Foreign countries	28,577	20,696	85,822	371,188	10,019
	1,623,651	1,636,323	2,194,873	3,560,084	973,650

60. The distribution of the sugar and molasses crop was as follows:—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	92,055	—
Canada	335,351	316,624
Newfoundland	80	52,342
British West Indies	42,240	818
United States of America	30,200	34,143
Elsewhere	14,261	—
	£515,187	£403,927

AGRICULTURE.

61. Reference has already been made to the severe drought of 1920 and 1921, which caused the sugar crop to be the lowest recorded for many years. The crop is reaped between February and June, and the figures given below, though nominally the exports for the year, may be accepted as roughly corresponding to the crop results. Exports of sugar since 1917 have been as follows (molasses being reduced to equivalent in sugar):—

1917	69,367 tons.	1920	48,212 tons.
1918	57,191 „	1921	36,005 „
1919	69,628 „		

62. Not only was the output small, but the cost of production was unusually high, as a large proportion of manures and other estate supplies had been purchased at the height of the "boom" prices. When in addition to these difficulties the planter was faced with a heavy fall in price, it can be easily understood that 1921 was one of the most difficult years through which the industry has passed. Nearly all estates were worked at a loss, in many cases a substantial loss, and the difficulty of financing estates for the ensuing crop caused widespread anxiety. Fortunately, that difficulty was overcome as explained elsewhere, and, given one or two favourable years, the industry may well be re-established on a secure basis in a very short period.

63. The continued loss from insects and other pests, however, causes some misgiving. The Director of Agriculture again reports considerable damage from the Root Borer and the Brown Hard Back. The Mosaic Disease, which was brought to notice in 1920, was the subject of special measures of control. A Commission was appointed in November, 1921, including representative planters, to carry out a careful inspection of lands for Mosaic Disease and take measures for its eradication. The Commission was granted extensive powers for securing the destruction of infected plants. The inspectors appointed by the Commission found the disease widely prevalent.

64. The menace of plant diseases and the narrow margin often existing between the prices and costs of production of sugar give a special importance to the experiments carried on by the Department of Agriculture in the production of new varieties of seedling canes. A schedule of results obtained with the more important varieties during 1921 is given below:—

Variety	*No. of Years Tried.*	*No. of Experiments.*	*Percentage of increase*	
			Over White Transparent.	*Over B6450.*
B.H.10(12) ...	8	72	62·1	26·6
B.a.6032	7	98	50·2	12·8
B.a.7924	8	59	36·8	8·2
B.a.11,403 ...	7	10	37·5	7·1
B.a.11,569 ...	7	36	58·1	16·4
B.a.12,079 ...	7	12	41·1	12·1
B.S.F.12(48) ...	6	6	31·0	14·0
B.S.F.12(50) ...	6	6	39·4	21·3

The experiments were, however, seriously hampered by the ravages of insect pests to an extent which deprives the results in some cases of much of their value. An endeavour is being made to find more suitable lands for carrying on the experiments where pests can be kept under more control.

COTTON.

65. The results of the cotton crop for 1921, as compared with 1920, are given below:—

	1920.	1921.
Acres	1,179	1,564
Quantity, lb.	100,610	88,416
Value	£13,201	£14,242

Selected seed of improved type grown under supervision of the Department of Agriculture was used by a number of planters and gave some very good results ranging from 1,200 to 1,600 lb. of seed cotton per acre. The quality of this cotton was highly reported on by Messrs. Wolstenholme and Holland as " very bright, staple, fine, long, and regular," the value being put at 30*d.* " with any demand."

66. The various vegetable crops planted for local consumption suffered considerably from decreased rainfall, giving much reduced yields in many cases.

67. Many estates are much hampered by the very high prices at which they changed hands during the 1920 " boom," which makes profitable working almost impossible under present conditions.

INDUSTRY.

68. Prospecting for oil by the British Union Oil Company has been energetically pushed forward. Oil has been found in various places, but no definite opinion of the commercial prospects can yet be formed. So far the indications are decidedly hopeful.

SHIPPING.

69. The shipping trade of the port, as might be expected, shared in the general depression, arising not only from local conditions, but from world conditions affecting shipping.

70. The number of vessels entered was 1,108, with a tonnage of 1,184,444, as compared with 1,375 with a tonnage of 1,604,914 during 1920.

The number of " transit " vessels, i.e., other than regular callers, was only 128, as compared with 300 in 1920 and 516 in 1919.

71. The returns of the coaling trade (*see* paragraph 54) were the lowest for seventeen years.

V.—EDUCATION.

72. The schools in the Island, though largely assisted and in the case of the elementary schools almost entirely supported by Government grants, are not Government schools. They are supervised, however, by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons nominated by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspector of Schools and his assistants are nominated by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Central Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

73. There are three grades of schools recognised by the Board, viz., Elementary Schools of which there were 134 in 1921; Second Grade Schools, six in number; and three First Grade Schools, viz., Harrison College, the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. Harrison and Queen's Colleges are situated in Bridgetown, and the Lodge School (a boarding school) in the parish of St. John, about twelve miles from town. The elementary schools in their turn are annually classified as first, second, or third class schools, according to the efficiency of each school in work, tone, etc. There are also three " ragged schools " for very poor children.

74. The policy of the Education Board in recent years has tended towards a reduction in the number of elementary schools and concentration in larger schools.

Between 1912 and 1920 the Board closed thirty-three schools, erected nineteen, and enlarged twenty-two. There were 19,061 children on the school registers during 1921, and the average attendance was 11,230. The corresponding figures for 1920 were 19,422 on the registers, and 11,297 in average attendance.

Attendance was handicapped by outbreaks of illness, especially enteric and dysentery. The total number of children between five and fifteen years of age in the Colony according to the census was 36,487.

75. There is not as much provision for training in manual and agricultural work as might be desired, and extension in this direction is hampered by lack of funds. Good work is done, however, at a fair number of schools in connection with school gardens, and, at a local Agricultural Exhibition held in December, a large number of satisfactory exhibits from elementary schools was displayed. Interest in this section of the work appears to be keen, and the work deserves better facilities and encouragement. Regular instruction in hygiene is given, and an experienced lady visitor, a member of a Medical Commission which visited the Colony in 1921, expressed a high opinion of the standard of cleanliness and discipline observed in the schools.

76. The pay of the elementary teachers was increased during the year, in the case of head teachers by 50 per cent., and in that of assistant and pupil teachers by 33⅓ per cent. over the pre-war rates. These rates, which were at first granted as a temporary bonus, were later made permanent. The cost of elementary school teachers' salaries, including bonus payments, amounts to £25,970, out of a total expenditure on education of £37,925. The Education Board reports that the salaries of teachers are now on a satisfactory basis.

77. The amount collected by way of school fees in elementary schools was £1,371, an average for each child of about 2*s*. 5*d*.

78. There is an institute for training elementary teachers known as the Rawle Institute, which was started in 1912 and is carried on in co-operation with Codrington College. There were eleven teachers (six male and five female) undergoing training at this institution during the year. So far fifty-three teachers, thirty-six male and seventeen female, have passed through the institute, of whom thirty-eight (twenty-four men and fourteen women) are now serving in the Island. The Government grant towards this institution was £450.

FIRST AND SECOND GRADE SCHOOLS.

79. The total Legislative Grant towards the six second grade schools was £2,951. These schools enter candidates for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Local Examinations with fairly good results. The average attendance at all schools during the year was 426. The Combermere School for boys in Bridgetown with a roll of 248 is by far the largest. This school entered eighteen candidates for the Cambridge Local Examination (thirteen Junior and five Senior), of whom twelve passed. The total entry from all second grade schools was forty-one (thirty Junior and eleven Senior), of whom twenty-eight secured passes.

80. The total attendance at the three first grade schools was 426, of whom 292 were boys and 134 girls. The Government grant towards the first grade schools was £4,943, as against £3,566 in 1920. The two boys' schools enter candidates for the Oxford and Cambridge Higher Certificates, School Certificate and Lower Certificate Examinations, as well as for the Cambridge Locals. There were ten candidates for the Higher Certificate, of whom five passed, and eighteen candidates for the School Certificate, of whom five passed. Eight candidates entered for the Lower Certificate, of whom six passed.

81. There are several exhibitions offered for entries at the second and first grade schools, which are keenly competed for. Twenty such exhibitions tenable at the second grade schools were filled, and seven at the first grade schools. For the former forty-three candidates competed and for the latter thirty.

82. Cadet companies are maintained at the Lodge, Harrison College and Combermere Schools, and are, on the whole, well supported. In some cases their efficiency has reached a high pitch. Girl Guide troops have also been warmly taken up in connection with the girls' schools, and have been especially successful. The Boy Scout movement is established in some schools, and deserves greater support than it has so far secured.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

83. Codrington College, the only institution in the West Indies at which a University degree is obtainable, had thirteen students. There are four "Island Scholarships" tenable at this institution offered by the Government (two annually). Three candidates competed in 1921. Mr. H. A. M. Beckles, B.A., a former Island scholar at Codrington was awarded a Fellowship at Durham.

84. The Barbados Scholarship of £250 per annum for three years, tenable at an approved University in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, was awarded to Mr. H. W. Gregory, a pupil of Harrison College; ten candidates competed.

85. When all the conditions are considered the facilities for secondary and higher education in this Colony must be regarded as exceptionally good. It is to be hoped that in spite of financial difficulties it will be possible to preserve the high standard hitherto maintained, which has been not only a great credit to the Colony but an asset the value of which cannot be estimated in material terms.

86. Delegates from Barbados attended the West Indian Educational Conference held in Trinidad in April. Financial difficulties are unfortunately likely to delay the carrying out of many of the recommendations agreed upon.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

87. The census was taken on 24th April, 1921, and revealed an unexpected decrease in population, which was returned at 156,312, or 15,671 less than in 1911, which in its turn was over 10,000 less than in 1891. Up to 1891 the population steadily increased by about 1,000 yearly; since then there has been a nearly equal decline. Some of the more important results of the 1921 census are given below compared with those of 1911:—

	1911.	1921.
Total population	171,983	156,312
Number of whites	12,063	10,429
Number of blacks	118,387	111,677
Number of mixed	41,533	34,216
Number per square mile, St. Michael	3,825	3,623
,, ,, ,, ,, whole Island ...	1,034	940
Percentage of females	59·2	59·7
Number of agricultural labourers (both sexes)	36,233	32,728
Attending educational institutions	34,244	25,533
Afflicted persons	1,200	1,124

88. The causes for the decline in population are given by the compiler of the census as emigration, declining birth-rate and higher death-rate. Owing to the unreliability of the immigration and emigration statistics, however, the calculation of all three factors is affected. The returns for birth and death-rates have been based on estimates showing an increasing population, the estimate for 1920, the year before the census, being 198,336. As there has been during the decennial period an excess of births over deaths of 8,725, it is evident, if the results of the census are accepted as even approximately correct, that there has been a loss of population by emigration of about 24,000, instead of a gain as shown by the immigration statistics. This error vitiates all calculations of birth and death-rates for the decennial period, both being higher than the published figures. The following calculations of rates from 1918 onwards have been made from the results of the 1921 census treated retrospectively:—

	Birth-rate.	*Death-rate.*
1918	38·02	25·95 per 1,000.
1919	33·94	38·21 ,,
1920	37·07	32·90 ,,
1921	32·62	43·42 ,,

For the year 1912, the year after the last census, the birth and death-rates were approximately thirty-one and forty-one per mille respectively. In face of these figures, which show very remarkable fluctuations, it is difficult to draw a definite conclusion. There seems, unfortunately, little doubt that the high infantile mortality is a very important factor in the decline of population, though it is impossible to say whether, if this factor were modified, the resulting gain would not be counterbalanced by increased emigration. The method of compiling emigration statistics is under investigation.

89. The high percentage of females has been a constant factor in population figures in Barbados, at any rate during the last sixty years. The percentage has, however, increased since 1861 from 53·6 to 59·7 per cent. The excess, as might be expected, is largest in the Central Parish, to which there is an increasing movement of population, the percentage of population residing in that parish having grown from 13·1 per cent. in 1871 to 26·1 in 1921.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

90. The year 1921 was not a fortunate one in this respect. The outbreak of typhoid fever, recorded in the report for 1920, continued to increase and reached serious proportions. As there is no registration of deaths in the Colony (but only of burials, the cause of death not being shown), the effects of the epidemic can only be surmised, but there can be little doubt that the high death-rate recorded (43·42 per mille) must be attributed largely to this cause. Drought and hard times, no doubt, increased the incidence of the disease which happily has since abated. A large

number of cases were treated in the isolation hospitals opened by the various parishes. Many cases, however, must reach an advanced stage before the aid of a doctor is sought.

An outbreak of this disease in the prison was successfully controlled by the inoculation of all prisoners on entry.

91. The public water supply is carefully and regularly tested, and its purity appears to be above suspicion, so that the causes for the spread of the disease must be looked for in unsatisfactory sanitation and flies. Owing to drought, the water supply was curtailed in some districts, but this could only have contributed indirectly, if at all, to the prevalence of enteric.

92. A Sanitary Survey of Bridgetown was completed and a report presented by Mr. Howard Humphreys in September, 1921, but, owing to financial stringency, it was not possible to proceed with the matter. The conditions under which a large part of the population lives make the problem peculiarly difficult and expensive to tackle effectively.

93. A clinic for the treatment of venereal diseases was opened at the General Hospital. This was made possible by the efforts of the Women's Social Welfare League under the presidency of Lady O'Brien. The League provided funds and equipment for the maintenance of the clinic and secured the enthusiastic co-operation of the hospital staff by whom the clinic is served. Excellent work was done, and the number of patients attending increased steadily. Voluntary effort such as this can, however, only touch the fringe of the problem, which calls urgently for a united effort by the whole community, supported by public funds. Unfortunately, the financial position makes any comprehensive scheme impracticable at present, but a start should be made as soon as possible on however limited a scale.

94. A series of experiments in the treatment of leprosy with ethyl esters of Chaulmoogra Oil has been in progress at the Lazaretto during the year. It is not yet possible to express a definite opinion as to the efficacy of the treatment, but the majority of those treated have shown marked improvement and the results seem very promising.

95. Barbados enjoys natural advantages from a public health standpoint which few tropical places can equal and none surpass. Its climate is equable without extremes of heat or cold in any part, the soil admirably drained by nature; it has an irreproachable water supply and no malaria fever. With these advantages artificial methods of sanitation are a less pressing necessity than the density of the population might lead a casual observer accustomed to tropical conditions to suppose. No one could claim, however, that the present position is satisfactory, especially in the central parish and Bridgetown, where over a quarter of the population is concentrated. The indiscriminate manner in which

villages have been allowed to grow up without a settled plan co-ordinated to a definite sanitary scheme must make the task of organising a scheme very difficult, and until financial conditions show substantial improvement no progress can be looked for. It is earnestly to be hoped, however, that the parish authorities who are responsible for sanitation will not be daunted by the undoubted difficulties, and will keep the question before the public eye.

VII.—COMMUNICATION.

(*a*) By Sea.

96. In spite of the absence of a contract for a regular mail service to the United Kingdom, the Colony was well served in this respect. The steamers of the Royal Netherlands West India Mail maintained a fortnightly service from Dover, and there were regular sailings of the Harrison Line steamers, as well as occasional mails by Leyland Line vessels. In all, 134 mails were received from the United Kingdom, and 70 despatched.

97. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company's fortnightly service between Canada and the West Indies was kept up, and was supplemented by freight steamers of the Canadian Merchant Marine. No definite prospect of the improved passenger and Mail Service contemplated by the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, to which this Colony agreed to contribute £4,000 a year, has yet taken shape. The subsidy to the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company continues to be paid entirely by the Canadian Government, the contract having been provisionally extended for a year.

98. From New York, steamers of the Quebec Steamship Company (Furness, Withy & Company) gave a fortnightly service.

Other Lines calling were the Lamport and Holt, Lloyd Brasiliero, Booth Line, and United States Steel Product Line, all from South American ports.

Communications between the Islands are supplemented by schooners. During 1921, 313 mails were received from steamers, and 83 (inter-Island) mails by sailing vessels. Communication with Jamaica remains indirect and subject to considerable delay.

99. Tourist ships of the Furness Withy and White Star Lines paid several visits during the winter months.

100. The passenger service to the United Kingdom, though much improved by the regular service of the Dutch mail steamers, is still considerably below the pre-war standard, and the comparatively high rates are a serious check on travelling. Local effort can, however, do little to improve the situation.

101. The number of ships entered was 1,121, of which 424 were steamships, and 687 sailing ships. Seven warships (five British) visited the Island, and three yachts. Of the steamships entered, 270 were British, fifty-seven American and forty-one Dutch.

(*b*) TELEGRAPHS.

102. The West India and Panama Company's service continues to be the principal means of telegraphic communication. The Western Telegraph Company's Line to Brazil was opened in 1920, and a line operated by the Western Union Company to Miami was laid but not opened to traffic owing to difficulties as to securing permission to land the American end of the cable.

103. The Government Wireless Station has proved exceedingly useful to shipping and during interruptions of cable communication. The station, which was equipped on a temporary basis during the War, needs considerable improvement before it can be regarded as adequate. Arrangements to increase the range and instal a more satisfactory apparatus have now been made.

(*c*) INTERNAL.

104. There is no inland telegraph, communication being maintained by a private telephone company with some 1,500 lines and by local postal deliveries. There are ten district post offices in the Island. A daily house-to-house delivery is maintained in the country districts, and four deliveries in Bridgetown.

105. The Barbados Government Railway, purchased by the Government in 1916, has, so far, been carried on at a loss. A general manager was appointed during 1921, and it may be hoped that with more skilled professional assistance the equipment of the line may be gradually improved and a better service afforded. The usefulness of the line is restricted by the configuration of the country which limits the area which can be economically served. The expenditure on the railway in 1921 was £22,344 and the receipts £12,653. The expenditure, however, included renewals of equipment and track, while the very short sugar crop seriously affected the receipts.

106. The Island is a network of roads of varying quality. Financial stringency and the increasing use of motor vehicles, especially heavy lorries, have caused a marked deterioration of the surface. The dust at certain seasons of the year is a serious nuisance.

107. There is a mule tramway service in Bridgetown and suburbs, and two motor 'bus services running to Speightstown and St. Johns.

108. The configuration of the coast is not generally suitable to communication by boat, but there is a regular sloop service between Bridgetown and Speightstown.

W. E. JACKSON,
Acting Governor.

Barbados,
26th August, 1922.

COLONIAL REPORTS, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1099	New Hebrides	1920
1100	Somaliland	"
1101	Straits Settlements	"
1102	Swaziland	1920–1921
1103	Trinidad and Tobago	1920
1104	Turks and Caicos Islands	"
1105	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1106	Seychelles	"
1107	Ashanti	"
1108	Hongkong	"
1109	British Guiana	"
1110	British Honduras	"
1111	Malta	1920–1921
1112	Uganda	1920
1113	Leeward Islands	1920–1921
1114	Nigeria	1921
1115	Mauritius	1920
1116	Jamaica	1921
1117	Cyprus	"
1118	Weihaiwei	"
1119	Gold Coast	1920
1120	Gambia	"
1121	Gambia	1921
1122	Kenya Colony and Protectorate	"
1123	British Guiana	"
1124	Grenada	"
1125	Zanzibar	"
1126	Northern Territories of the Gold Coast	"
1127	Gibraltar	"
1128	St. Vincent	"
1129	St. Helena	"
1130	Fiji	"
1131	Basutoland	1921–1922
1132	Bermuda	1921
1133	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1921–1922

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Visit by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1175.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1922-23.

(For Report for 1921-22 see No. 1134.)

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No. 1175.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1922–23.

I.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North, and longitude 59° 37′ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 940 to the square mile. In size it is, therefore, comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras; in climate to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them "Los Barbados" on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship "Olive Blossom" in the name of King James I.

4. James I granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough, and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonize the Island. Some thirty settlers landed on the leeward coast, and founded Holetown.

5. Charles I, in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of pre-occupation against Lord Carlisle, and under this last grant, the "Leeward" settlers at Holetown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's "Windward" settlers, who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died, leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an Act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the Island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the government when the Commonwealth was estabished, though many Royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

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9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim and the heirs of Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all the liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a 4½ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the Island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor. Members of the Assembly are elected annually.

16. Barbados is the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by residents in neighbouring colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito (the carrier of malaria) is not found in the Island. This is a somewhat curious fact, since it is certain that they must be imported not infrequently in vessels which in many cases lie in the " Careenage " or inner harbour for considerable periods, on arrival from places where they are prevalent. The conditions, however, are evidently unfavourable to their breeding ashore.

18. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and between November and May

the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° F. For the greater part of the year the temperature is delightfully equable, and the heat is seldom oppressive. Few places, indeed, enjoy a more pleasant climate. The winter months are regarded as the "Tourist Season."

19. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks are unknown.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

20. The year 1922 opened under depressing conditions. The prospects for the crops to be reaped during the year were poor owing to the small rainfall of the previous year. The expenses of planting and preparing the crops had been high, and the prices for sugar and molasses were low. Favourable weather conditions, however, during the first quarter of the year much improved the crops, which, when reaped, gave far better results than had been anticipated, and by the end of the year the Colony had largely recovered from its depression.

21. The Colony is dependent almost entirely on the sugar industry. In 1922, out of the total export of local produce and manufactures, valued at £964,968, the value of sugar, molasses and rum exported was £914,198. The quantity of sugar, etc., exported during 1922 exceeded that for 1921 by 15,000 tons, but the value of these exports was less than that for 1921 by £20,436 owing to the lower prices received. The yield from the various vegetable crops was greater than for the previous year.

22. The average rainfall for the year was 54·55 inches, varying in different parts of the Island from 42·87 inches to 70·90 inches in the higher lands. The heaviest fall in a separate month was in September (12·04 inches).

23. The financial year opened with a debit balance of £44,386 and closed with a credit balance of £72,302, leaving the Colony financially in a better position than had been enjoyed for some years. The revenue received for the year exceeded the amount estimated for by £82,780, but, as £10,499 was received from taxation not included in the estimates, the actual excess over the estimates was £72,281. The principal excess was in Customs receipts, Import Duties being responsible for £51,948 of the increase.

24. At the commencement of the financial year the Colony was indebted to the Colonial Bank for advances to meet its obligations to the amount of £65,000. This amount was settled

by the issue to the Bank of Government Debentures bearing interest at 6 per cent. and redeemable in 10 years or earlier if the Government desired. Of this sum, £20,000 has already been paid back to the Bank early in the present financial year, and it is hoped that arrangements to clear or cover part of the balance of indebtedness will be possible before the financial year closes.

25. The Report for 1921–22 refers to the assistance rendered by the Government to the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank by guaranteeing advances to be made during the latter part of 1922 for the cultivation of the crops of 1923. These advances were necessary to enable the Bank, whose funds were temporarily locked up in advances made to plantations during the previous hard years, to finance its customers by borrowing from the local banks. The Act passed for this purpose pledged the general revenue and assets of the Colony for amounts advanced by the Bank which it might not be in a position to repay the local banks at the close of the 1923 crop. Owing to certain conditions imposed to safeguard the interests of the Colony, many of the ordinary customers of the Bank did not apply for advances, and the total transactions for the year were less than usual. The Bank will be able to pay off all its advances from the local banks without assistance from the Colony.

26. A return from the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank to the 31st May, 1921, showed that 154 owners of plantations still owed the Bank £462,107 out of the amounts loaned in 1920–21. The return to the 31st May, 1922, showed that this amount had been reduced to £221,311 due from 100 owners, and, at the present time, that amount has been reduced by more than half. It is hoped that at the end of the present season the amount will be still further reduced, and that the position of the Bank will be as near normal as possible.

27. Owing to the low rainfall during the previous years, the sources from which the Government draws its water supplies continued very low during the early portion of the year. It became necessary to cut off the supply of water to certain country standpipes during part of each day, and to curtail greatly the supply to factories. The supply of water to the shipping was also reduced to the barest needs. During the latter portion of the year, however, the sources of supply increased their yield and matters became normal again.

28. Thanks to the assistance of the British Union Oil Company in prospecting for water, an ample supply was found on the lands of the Belle plantation, and this has been converted into a reserve source of supply for the Water Department which should prevent, it is hoped, a recurrence of the recent difficulties on the occasion of future drought.

III.—FINANCIAL.

(1) Revenue and Expenditure.

29. The revenue and expenditure for the last five years have been as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1918–19	347,497	347,817
1919–20	420,136	351,851
1920–21	454,286	508,391
1921–22	340,814	409,055
1922–23	519,213	402,524

Loans and special expenditure are included in the above figures. For instance, the sum of £42,000 raised by loans during the year is included in both receipts and expenditure.

30. To meet the financial obligations at the close of the previous year, the Government was forced to obtain overdrafts from the Colonial Bank, which at the commencement of the financial year under review—1st April, 1922—amounted to £65,000. The actual debit balance at that date was £44,386, the remainder of the overdraft being due to advances, etc. At the 30th June the overdraft amounted to £64,634, and it was decided to cover the indebtedness by the issue to the Bank of debentures, bearing interest at 6 per cent. and repayable in ten years or at the end of five years if desired by the Government, which was authorised by the Liquidation Act, 1922. To meet the sinking fund and interest on these debentures for the year, the Additional Taxation Act was passed imposing a tax on land and house property. The amount raised under the Act was £10,499. The Act was intended to meet a temporary emergency and has not been continued.

31. The provisions of the Income Tax Act passed in 1921 came first into action during the year. The amount received under its provisions was £18,244.

32. The Colonial Estimates for 1922–23 provided for a revenue of £318,305, and this amount was exceeded by £82,780. Of this amount, however, £10,499, as already stated, was received from the Additional Taxation Act, which was not provided for on the Estimates. The expenditure provided for on the Estimates was £341,447, which was exceeded by £9,817 due to liabilities for previous years and to additional payments authorised by the Legislature.

33. A statement of assets and liabilities on 31st March, 1923, is given below :—

Liabilities.

	£
Unpaid Vouchers on 31st March	2,127
Outstanding Liabilities on unexpended Votes for 1922–23	11,296
Excess of Assets over Liabilities	62,474
	75,897

Assets.

	£
In Treasury	72,302
Police Tax Arrears	186
Water Rates Arrears	3,383
Additional Tax Arrears	26
	75,897

REVENUE.

34. The revenue exceeded that for the previous year by £178,399.

35. The principal sources of the revenue collected for the year are as follows :—

	£
Customs	205,960
Excise	60,890
Special Receipts	115,236
Income Tax	18,244
Additional Tax	10,499

Under the head of "Special Receipts" is included the sum of £106,634 received under the Liquidation Act (referred to in paragraph 30) and from Loans for special purposes. The amount under this head exceeded that for the previous year by £108,538.

36. Customs receipts, £205,960, exceeded those for the previous year by £41,462.

37. Excise Duties exceeded the previous year's by £3,998.

38. Increases under the following heads were also received :—

Port and Harbour Dues	£8,529,	increase of £2,890
Licences	£6,953,	,, ,, £2,150

39. There were decreases under the following heads :—

Post Office	£12,420,	decrease of £4,828
Water Works ...	18,594,	,, ,, 5,709
Wireless Station ...	1,426,	,, ,, 2,596

The decrease in the Post Office receipts is due to reduction in the rate of premiums received on Bills of Exchange from Washington and to the payment of 75 per cent. of the premium received to the payees of Money Orders from the United States of America. A decrease under Money Order Commission was entailed on account of fewer orders being issued.

EXPENDITURE.

40. There was a small decrease in expenditure of most Departments during the year owing to a decrease in the cost of materials, while the ordinary expenses of administration show no change.

41. The expenditure in the principal spending Departments is as follows :—

Police, £38,371, showing a decrease of £3,159 on previous year.

Medical, £31,774, showing a decrease of £18,230 on previous year.

Water Works, £44,258, showing a decrease of £5,242 on previous year.

42. The decreases in the other Departments are principally due to the fall in the cost of materials used. In the case of the Water Works Department, the decrease is due to a reduction in pumping charges owing to the reduction in the supply of the springs. The expenditure on Water Works includes £16,875 for Sinking Fund and Interest on Loans for the Department. The expenditure of the Department, after deducting the above charges, was £27,383, and the revenue received was £18,594. To account for the excess of expenditure over revenue, it must be explained that the poorer classes of the population are supplied with water free from standpipes on the public roads.

43. The expenditure on Education shows an advance of £10,685 due to an increase in the rates of pay of the Elementary School Teachers having been sanctioned during the year.

44. Charges for Debt, £21,634, showed an increase of £4,084 over the previous year. This increase was due to the Interest and Sinking Fund paid under the provisions of the Liquidation Act, 1922.

45. Railway, £16,541, showed a decrease of £5,898.

46. On the Estimates for the year the 25 per cent. bonus, which had been granted to the whole service, was removed, and the following grants only were allowed :—

On substantive salaries up to £150 per annum, 30 per cent.
,, ,, ,, above £150 and up to £200, 25 ,, ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, £200 ,, ,, £250, 20 ,, ,,
,, ,, ,, ,, £250 ,, ,, £350, 10 ,, ,,

(2) PUBLIC DEBT.

47. The Public Debt on the 31st March, 1923, was £662,400, and the face value of the Sinking Fund was £220,154. The largest single item is the Water Works Loan of £375,000 raised for the purchase of the Water Supply System in 1895.

48. £65,000 has been spent on the purchase and reconstruction of the Railway since 1916. The remainder has been spent at various dates on various public works.

49. £107,000 has been added to the Public Debt during the year, viz., £65,000 under the Liquidation Act and £42,000 under the Loan Act. £6,100 was redeemed.

(3) BANKS.

50. (*a*) *Savings Bank.*—The total sum to the credit of depositors on 31st December, 1922, was £582,748, and the value of invested funds £646,519. The number of depositors was 12,421. The corresponding figures for 1921 were: deposits £611,806, value of invested funds £678,818, number of depositors 12,859. The use of the Bank is not confined to small depositors.

51. (*b*) *Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.*—This Bank, which was established in 1906 with the proceeds of the special grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Government in 1902 towards the assistance of the sugar industry in Barbados, now plays a very important part in the financial arrangements of that industry and of the Colony.

52. The original capital of the Bank (£80,000) has been augmented by the profits of successive years until at the end of May, 1923, it was given at £157,247. The whole amount is placed in loans to planters, and, in addition, it has been customary for the Bank to borrow considerable sums from commercial banks for the purpose of loans made to planters under the special security of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Act, 1907.

53. Owing to the slump in the sugar values in 1920, a large number of owners of plantations found themselves unable to repay their advances from the Bank, and at the close of May, 1921, there was due to the Bank the sum of £474,007; this included the total funds of the Bank and the sum of £325,742 due to the local commercial banks. On the 31st May, 1923, the indebtedness of plantation owners to the Bank had been reduced to £131,604, the local commercial banks had been repaid the whole of the advances made by them, and the Bank was in a position to repay other amounts which had been obtained from private sources in 1921.

IV.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

54. The total value of imports and exports for the last five years is given below :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
1918	2,986,006	2,480,646
1919	3,893,458	3,305,382
1920	5,145,537	4,865,894
1921	2,642,273	1,467,903
1922	2,480,320	1,259,794

The figures relating to Trade are for the calendar year 1922.

IMPORTS.

55. There was a decrease in the value of imports of £161,953 as compared with the previous year.

56. Some of the principal items showing decreases are the following :—

	1921.	1922.
	£	£
Butter	39,882	28,929
Fish	147,637	121,783
Flour	245,972	178,463
Machinery	297,759	74,292
Manures	129,442	87,619
Oil—kerosene	30,407	18,458

The decreases will be seen to be largely due to the drop in the value of machinery imported and in the value of manures.

57. The following items show increases :—

	1921.	1922.
	£	£
Cotton piece goods	68,727	118,471
Wood, white pine	41,236	89,497
„ Staves and shooks ...	1,516	15,524

EXPORTS.

58. Of the total exports for the year, £1,259,794, the produce and manufactures of the Colony amounted to £964,968, and of that amount £914,198 was the value of sugar, molasses and rum. The value of cotton exported was £15,810.

59. Of the other articles exported, coal for bunkers was valued at £55,550.

60. The value of the sugar, molasses and rum shipped during the year, as compared with the previous year, was as follows :—

	1921.	1922.	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
	£	£	£	£
Sugar ...	515,187	503,398	—	11,798
Molasses ...	403,927	409,984	6,057	—
Rum ...	15,520	816	—	14,704

61. *Cotton.*—174,511 lb., valued at £15,810, were exported, compared with 71,519 lb., valued at £6,498, in 1921.

62. The average prices prevailing for staple articles during the last five years are given below :—

	1918.			1919.			1920.			1921.			1922.		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Sugar, per ton	20	10	0	28	10	0	63	15	0	22	10	0	16	5	0
Molasses, per gallon ...		1	7½		1	10		3	1		1	5		1	1
Cotton, per lb.		4	0		4	0		1	5		1	10		1	10
Rum, per gallon		2	6		8	0		4	6		12	0		2	1

63. Sugar and molasses were exported to the following places :—

		Sugar.	*Molasses.*
		£	£
United Kingdom ...	Value	130,299	—
Other Parts of British Empire	,,	365,210	373,474
Foreign Countries ...	,,	7,889	36,510
		£503,398	£409,984

Minor Products.

64. Lime (building) valued at £2,524 was exported, as compared with £398 in 1921.

Manjak, 131 tons, valued at £4,326, as against 109 tons valued at £2,844.

Fresh vegetables, valued at £13,305, as against £4,947. The total value of minor products exported in 1922 was £34,960, as compared with £32,518 in 1921.

COALING TRADE.

65. Steamers to the number of 113 were supplied with 33,374 tons of coal during the year, as compared with 97 steamers supplied with 34,308 tons during 1921. The value of the coal supplied was returned at £55,550, as compared with £74,339 in 1921.

TRANSIT TRADE.

66. The value of the goods entered for transhipment was £145,756.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

67. The import trade for 1922 was distributed as follows, according to origin and value :—

	£
From United Kingdom	784,335
Canada	550,350
Other parts of British Empire	397,440
United States of America	597,705
Other foreign countries	150,490
	2,480,320

68. The following table shows the sources of imports for the last five years, given in percentage :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	20·0	19·0	30·3	35·9	31·6
Canada	16·3	18·6	18·5	22·5	22·1
Other parts of British Empire	21·4	18·3	12·3	12·7	16·1
United States of America ...	34·8	39·8	35·7	22·2	24·1
Other foreign countries	7·5	4·3	3·2	6·7	6·1

69. The following list of certain principal articles of imports from Canada and the United States of America, with their values, may be of interest :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	1,649	7,548
Butter	4,099	15,832
Oilmeal and oilcake	29,932	4,060
Cornmeal	3,614	39,744
Flour	148,940	29,473
Oats	85,562	1
Salt meats	12,970	100,898
White pine, spruce	82,464	688
Pitch pine	5,326	36,032
Shingles	22,133	—
Vegetables, fresh	2,046	1,090
Fish	24,109	1,358
Manures	28,544	420

70. The export trade according to destinations is given below, only produce and manufactures of the Colony are shown :—

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
	£	£	£	£	£
To United Kingdom	391,101	343,887	1,055,346	105,687	149,058
,, Canada	850,419	1,470,193	1,266,134	653,332	655,649
,, Other parts of British Empire	200,021	207,681	300,165	137,183	106,886
,, United States of America ...	174,086	87,290	567,251	67,429	44,245
,, Other Foreign countries ...	20,696	85,822	371,188	10,019	9,130
	1,636,323	2,194,873	3,560,084	973,650	964,968

71. The distribution of the sugar and molasses crop was as follows :—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	130,299	—
Canada	349,517	306,058
Newfoundland	4,564	65,173
British West Indies	7,109	3
United States of America	8	36,501
Elsewhere	11,901	2,249

AGRICULTURE.

72. According to the Customs Returns for the year 1922, it will be seen that 29,876 tons of vacuum pan crystals, 3,946 tons of muscovado sugar, and 7,390,409 wine gallons of molasses, equal, at 110 gallons per puncheon, to 67,186 puncheons of molasses of all grades, were exported, of the total value of £913,382, made up as follows :—

			£
White Crystal Sugar	0·7	tons valued at	14
Yellow ,, ,,	12·0	,, ,, ,,	192
Dark ,, ,,	29,864·0	,, ,, ,,	447,947
Muscovado ,, ,,	3,946·0	,, ,, ,,	55,245
	33,822·7	,, ,, ,,	503,398
Fancy Molasses ...	6,555,749	gallons ,, ,,	382,417
Choice ,, ...	823,521	,, ,, ,,	27,450
Vacuum pan ,, ...	11,139	,, ,,	117
	7,390,409		913,382

73. The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone of the exports for the past five years :—

1918	57,191 tons.
1919	69,628 ,,
1920	48,212 ,,
1921	36,005 ,,
1922	51,074 ,,

74. The increase of the crop of 15,069 tons in comparison with the previous year was due, in considerable measure, to the favourable weather conditions which prevailed and to the increased yield per acre due to the use by planters of some of the better seedling canes. Owing to the increased sugar production, a number of the planters were able to pay their way during the year under review, and, in many instances, mortgagees have allowed the owners of estates to continue working the plantations without putting any extra pressure on them for unpaid interest. The planters on the whole may be said to have experienced better conditions than prevailed for the previous two years. The yield of the various vegetable crops during the period under review was greater than those of the previous year owing, as in the case of sugar, to the more favourable weather conditions. The Director of Agriculture continues to report excellent results of the Seedlings B.H. 10 (12), Ba. 6,032 and Ba. 11,569 when compared with the White Transparent and B. 6,450, the two varieties which are used as standard canes.

75. The following table shows the results obtained with the selected varieties as compared with the White Transparent and B. 6,450 for the crop season ended 1922 :—

Name of Cane.	*No of Years.*	*No of Experiments.*	*Percentage increase on White Transparent.*	*Percentage increase on* B.6450.
B.H.10(12)	9	83	59·9	26·8
Ba.6032	8	109	48·8	13·4
Ba.7924	9	66	34·5	7·9
Ba.11569	8	47	57·3	21·2
Ba.12079	8	13	41·8	13·9
B.S.F.12(48) ...	7	7	28·5	15·8

76. The Director of Agriculture again reports that owing to the damage sustained by the attacks of the root borer and the brown hard back, a number of the sugar canes have suffered considerably during the year under review; in one instance over 60 per cent. of the sugar canes were killed from the attack of the root borer. In the case of the experimental plots, the results are so different from those of previous years, when these pests were not in evidence, that it is difficult to draw definite conclusions from any of them. With regard to the Mosaic disease of the sugar cane, it has been found that owing to the carrying out of the provisions of the Mosaic Disease (Eradication) Act, 1921, there has been a considerable dimunition of the incidence of this disease.

COTTON.

77. The following table gives the comparison of cotton crops, that is, from 1st October of one year to 30th September of the next year :—

	Crop of 1920–21	*Crop of* 1921–22	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
Acres	1,564	1,092	—	472
Quantity, lb.	88,416	200,104	111,688	—
Value ...	£14,242	17,596	3,354	—

78. It may be mentioned that owing to the better return obtained by some of the planters from the cotton seed supplied by the Department of Agriculture, more remunerative results are being obtained, and the yield of the cotton from the improved strain is excellent. To show that this selection work in connection with the cotton is bearing fruit, it may be mentioned that the area planted in cotton for the season 1922–23 was 2,767 acres, as compared with an average of 1,323 acres for the past five years.

INDUSTRY.

79. The British Union Oil Company has continued its operations to find oil in the Island, and for the past year has concentrated its efforts in the Turner Hall (Scotland) district.

80. A four-inch pipe line has been laid from Turner Hall to Needham's Point where the Company's main storage tanks have been erected.

81. A small, but modern, refinery plant has recently been erected adjacent to Needham's Point.

82. From the main storage tanks an 8-inch sea line has been laid as far as the high-water mark which, in due course, will be taken out to sea for the purpose of bunkering ships. In addition to which, two powerful Hall & Sons' pumps and a Galloway Lancashire boiler have also been installed.

Returns as to the yield of oil from the wells that are being worked have not been volunteered by the Company.

SHIPPING.

83. The number of vessels entered was 1,141, with a tonnage of 1,444,721, as compared with 1,108, with a tonnage of 1,184,444 in 1921.

84. The number of " transient callers " was only 91, as compared with 128 in 1921.

85. Owing to the shortage of the Colony's water supply for the months of April to July, vessels could only be supplied with such quantities of water as were absolutely necessary for the voyage to their next port of call. In August the allowance was increased, but it was not until October that all restrictions could be withdrawn and vessels were allowed to take all the water they desired.

V.—EDUCATION.

86. The schools of the Island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of the Elementary Schools, almost entirely supported by Government grants, are not Government schools. They are supervised, however, by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons nominated by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspector of Schools and his Assistants are nominated by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Central Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

87. There are three grades of schools recognised by the Board, viz., Elementary Schools, of which there were 134 in 1922; Second-Grade Schools, six in number; and three First-Grade Schools, viz., Harrison College, the Lodge School for boys, and

Queen's College for girls. Harrison and Queen's Colleges are situated in Bridgetown, and the Lodge School, a boarding school, in the Parish of St. John, about twelve miles from town. The Elementary Schools, in their turn, are annually classified as first, second or third-class schools, according to the efficiency of each school in work, tone, etc. There are also three "ragged schools" for very poor children.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

88. During the year the 134 Elementary Schools in operation had 20,355 pupils on the school registers, but the average attendance was only 13,000.

89. There are a certain number of "exhibitions" open to the children of the Elementary Schools which allow the winners to enter the First and Second-Grade Schools, and the successful "exhibitioners" have the chance of competing for scholarships tenable at English Universities.

90. The cost of elementary education in 1922 was £30,033. Of this amount, £29,008 was contributed by the Government.

FIRST AND SECOND-GRADE SCHOOLS.

91. The average attendance at the six Second-Grade Schools during the year was 389. The Combermere School for boys in Bridgetown is the largest with a roll of 225. These schools enter candidates for the Senior and Junior Cambridge Local Examinations. The curriculum is, however, chiefly arranged for a commercial education.

92. The attendance at the three First-Grade Schools was 440, of whom 293 were boys and 147 girls. The two boys' schools enter candidates for the Oxford and Cambridge Higher Certificates, School Certificate and Lower Certificate Examinations, and the Cambridge Locals.

93. Cadet Companies are maintained at Harrison College and the Lodge and Combermere Schools, and there is also a Boy Scout Troop at the Combermere School. Girl Guide Troops are maintained in connection with the principal Girls' Schools in the Island, and the movement is in a strong position.

UNIVERSITY EDUCATION.

94. Codrington College, which is affiliated to the University of Durham, is the only institution in the West Indies at which a University degree is obtainable. During the year twelve students were in residence. No financial assistance is received from the Government beyond the four "Island Scholarships" of £40 each per annum.

95. The Barbados Scholarship of £250 per annum for three years, tenable at an approved university in the United Kingdom or elsewhere, is open to Barbadian candidates from the First and Second-Grade Schools.

VI.—VITAL STATISTICS.

96. Some of the more important results of the Census of 1921 are given below compared with those for 1911:—

	1911.	1921.
Total population	171,983	156,312
Number of whites	12,063	10,429
Number of blacks	118,387	111,677
Number of mixed	41,533	34,216
Number per square mile, St. Michael	3,825	3,623
,, ,, ,, ,, whole Island ...	1,034	940
Percentage of females	59·2	59·7
Number of agricultural labourers	36,233	32,728
Attending educational institutions	34,244	25,533
Afflicted persons	1,200	1,124

97. The following are the birth and death-rates for the past five years:—

	Birth-rate.	*Death-rate.*
1918	38·02	25·95 per 1,000.
1919	33·94	38·21 ,,
1920	37·07	32·90 ,,
1921	32·62	43·42 ,,
1922	34·33	22·41 ,,

98. There is no registration of the causes of death in the Colony, but the high death-rate recorded in 1921 is attributed to an outbreak of typhoid fever in that year. It is hoped, however, that legislation for the registration of deaths that has long been before the House of Assembly will become law in the current year.

VII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) EXTERNAL.

99. There is no contract for a regular mail service with the United Kingdom. The steamers of the Royal Netherlands West India Mail maintain a fortnightly service from Dover, calling at Plymouth on the homeward journey throughout the year. There were also frequent sailings by the Harrison Line from London, Liverpool and Glasgow; by the Leyland Line from Liverpool; and occasional calls by the Elder's and Fyffe's Line from Avonmouth during the winter months.

100. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company maintains a fortnightly mail and passenger service between Canada and the Colony, via Bermuda, the Leeward Islands and St. Lucia; and between the Colony and British Guiana by way of the Windward Islands and Trinidad. A freight service was also maintained between Canada and the West Indies by the steamers of the Canadian Government Mercantile Marine, Ltd., and of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

101. The Colony was also served by the following Lines :—

To New York by the Lamport and Holt Line direct; from New York, via the Northern Islands, by the Quebec Line, returning by the same route; to South American ports by the Lamport and Holt, Lloyd Brasileiro, Booth, and United States Steel Product Lines.

102. Steamers of the Royal Italian Line "La Veloce," from Mediterranean ports to Colon, also called at irregular periods.

(*b*) TELEGRAPHS.

103. The Colony is well served by the following companies :—

The West India and Panama Telegraph Company gives communication with the other West Indian Colonies and British Guiana, America and Europe. The Company receives a subsidy of £1,500 per annum from the Colony.

The Western Telegraph Company operates a line to Brazil and thence to Europe.

The Western Union Telegraph Company operates a line to Miami, Florida.

There is also a Government Wireless Station. The range has recently been extended. In addition to its services to the shipping, it has proved very useful in communicating with neighbouring Colonies during interruptions of the West India and Panama Company's cable.

(*c*) INTERNAL.

104. The Barbados Government Railway, purchased from a private company in 1916 to avoid its being abandoned, has so far been run at a loss, and, as about half the line runs along the sea coast, thus limiting the area which can be served by it, it is not likely to be a paying concern. The expenditure on it in 1922–23 was £16,541, and the revenue received was £13,375.

105. The Island is well served in the matter of roads, which are available for motor and other traffic, and the bulk of the produce is conveyed to Bridgetown by road. The roads are, however, suffering from the heavy increase in motor traffic, and their condition is such that the work of keeping them in repair is becoming yearly more difficult. The question of their proper maintenance is a problem which will have to be tackled at no distant date.

106. There is a mule tramway service in Bridgetown and its suburbs, and a service of motor buses is gradually being extended to all parts of the Island.

107. There is regular communication between Speightstown, the Leeward parishes and Bridgetown by coastal schooners.

J. B. HOWELL,

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Barbados,

25th August, 1923.

COLONIAL REPORTS, ETC.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1138	Swaziland	1921
1139	Hongkong	,,
1140	Straits Settlements	,,
1141	St. Lucia	,,
1142	Ashanti	,,
1143	Jamaica	,,
1144	Falkland Islands	1920
1145	Bahamas	1921–1922
1146	Seychelles	1921
1147	Turks and Caicos Islands	,,
1148	British Solomon Islands Protectorate	1921–1922
1149	Mauritius	1921
1150	Sierra Leone	,,
1151	Uganda	,,
1152	Somaliland	
1153	Kenya Colony and Protectorate (April–December)	,,
1154	Gold Coast	,,
1155	Nigeria	1922
1156	Nyasaland	1921
1157	Falkland Islands	,,
1158	Weihaiwei	1922
1159	Cyprus	,,
1160	Gambia	,,
1161	New Hebrides	1921 and 1922
1162	Nyasaland	1922
1163	Zanzibar	,,
1164	St. Helena	,,
1165	Sierra Leone	,,
1166	Trinidad and Tobago	,,
1167	Bermuda	,,
1168	Grenada	,,
1169	St. Lucia	,,
1170	Leeward Islands	1921–1922
1171	Fiji	1922
1172	Ceylon	,,
1173	Gibraltar	,,
1174	British Guiana	,,

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL

No. 1225.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1923-24.

(For Report for 1922-23 see No. 1175.)

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No. 1225.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1923–24.

1.—GEOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL NOTE.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North, and longitude 59° 37′ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 940 to the square mile. In size it is, therefore, comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras; in climate to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them "Los Barbados" on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship "Olive Blossom" in the name of King James I.

4. James I granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough, and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonize the Island. Some thirty settlers landed on the leeward coast, and founded Holetown.

5. Charles I, in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of pre-occupation against Lord Carlisle, and under this last grant, the "Leeward" settlers at Holetown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's "Windward" settlers, who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died, leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an Act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the Island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the government when the Commonwealth was established, though many Royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim and the heirs of Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all the liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a 4½ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the Island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor. Members of the Assembly are elected annually.

16. Barbados is by its natural and climatic conditions the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by residents in neighbouring colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito (the carrier of malaria) is not found in the Island. This is a somewhat curious fact, since it is certain that they must be imported not infrequently in vessels which in many cases lie in the "Careenage" or inner harbour for considerable periods, on arrival from places where they are prevalent. The conditions, however, are evidently unfavourable to their breeding ashore.

18. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and between November and May

the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° F. For the greater part of the year the temperature is delightfully equable, and the heat is seldom oppressive. Few places, indeed, enjoy a more pleasant climate. The winter months are regarded as the "Tourist Season."

19. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks are unknown.

II.—GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

1. The year 1921, following the collapse of the sugar market in 1920, reduced the Colony to a very depressed state, unfavourable trade conditions being aggravated by drought and the resulting reduction of the sugar crop to the lowest level recorded for many years. The succeeding two years have been a period of retrenchment and recovery and have afforded a remarkable display of rapid recuperative power which is strikingly illustrated by the history of the Government finances during that period.

2. The financial years 1920–21 and 1921–22 terminated with treasury deficits and seriously depleted resources. At the end of 1921–22 the actual deficit was £65,000, the unsecured floating debt £85,000 and the reserve fund had disappeared. By April, 1924, the whole of the floating debt had been paid off and a credit balance of £96,486 had been established, of which about £60,000 may be regarded as surplus available for the re-establishment of a reserve fund or such other purposes as may be determined upon. It has been provisionally agreed that the reserve fund should be fixed at £80,000 and that a large portion of the surplus should be set aside towards this fund.

3. This result has been accomplished by a combination of careful financial measures with the revival of favourable conditions for the sugar trade. The exports of sugar for 1923 were equivalent to 62,711 tons, valued at £1,820,571, an increase of about 20 per cent. in quantity and nearly 100 per cent. in value over the results for 1922 and over 70 per cent. above the 1921 output. The prices realized were the most favourable in recent years except for 1919 and the "boom" year 1920. At the same time conditions in the import trade have been more stable and the decline in prices since 1920–21 allowed of a decrease in the general costs of administration from about £400,000 in 1920–21 to £348,000 in 1923–24.

4. Additional taxation imposed during the last three years has included an income tax, a surtax on customs duties of 20 per cent. of the regular rates, a special tax on property imposed in 1922-23 for one year only, and an increase in various other dues and licence fees. The customs surtax was in operation for two years and has now been repealed as no longer necessary.

5. When every allowance is made for the improvement in external conditions, which has played a large part in the financial recovery described above, the results quoted are striking evidence of the essential stability and soundness of the economic organization of the Colony.

6. In addition to the recovery of the local Treasury, the excellent results of the 1923 sugar crop also enabled planters and merchants to recoup themselves and put them in a sound position. This is reflected in the operations of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank, of which details will be found in Section III, paragraphs 16-21.

7. The year 1923 was indeed one of exceptional prosperity. A small community, so largely dependent as Barbados on the results of a single industry peculiarly liable to severe fluctuations, must, however, inevitably experience many "ups and downs," and the inevitability of these fluctuations can never be lost sight of in dealing with its finances. To ensure solvency in lean years an ample margin is needed in times of prosperity.

8. Owing to emigration the population has declined steadily during the last two decades, though its numbers (158,000) are still considerable for so small an area. Since the opening of the Panama Canal the habit of emigration has taken firm hold among the younger and more enterprising sections of the people, though it has never again reached the proportions of the Panama Canal construction period. Emigration to the United States has in recent times been the most popular, and during 1923 showed a steadily increasing tendency, over 2,000 persons having left for New York. The effect of the constant withdrawal of so large a number of the younger and more vigorous members of the community, especially the younger men, is beginning to make itself felt.

9. Much public attention and criticism was directed to the condition of the roads. Barbados contains about 500 miles of public highway, a very large amount for an island of this size. The growth of motor traffic and the concentration of heavy traffic in recent years, due to the establishment of larger sugar factories, has resulted in a progressive deterioration of the surface of the

main roads, and it seems evident that the method of repair which sufficed for the lighter and slower traffic of pre-motor days is not adequate to withstand the greater wear and tear of modern conditions. The introduction of motors has no doubt also resulted in more frequent use of the roads. Within the last few years the use of motor buses on the country roads has greatly increased, and they are now widely patronized. In addition to the extra wear of the road surface thus caused, the need of reasonable comfort in travelling on the roads has been brought home to a much larger number. The soft crumbling surface produces in the dry season a serious amount of dust, which the faster traffic stirs up in disagreeable clouds, to the great detriment of the roads and the discomfort of the public. The care of the roads is in the hands of the parochial authorities, but proposals have been made for placing the main arterial roads under a central authority; no decision has, however, yet been reached on the subject.

10. The railway which crosses the southern side of the Island and proceeds about half way up the eastern or windward coast was acquired by the Government in 1916, but has not yet proved satisfactory in operation, and suggestions for its abandonment are made from time to time, more particularly in view of the greater facilities now offered by motor vehicles. It is worthy of consideration, however, whether the throwing on to the roads of the additional amount of traffic now handled by the railway would not seriously aggravate the road problem, while reducing facility of access to the windward side of the Island. The construction of a motor road following the line of railway along the windward coast would be a costly business.

11. The proposals of the Imperial and Canadian Governments for the construction of a new telegraph and wireless telegraph system for the Eastern West Indies and British Guiana were adopted during the year and construction is now in progress. The position of Barbados as the centre of this system should prove an asset to the Colony. The cables from Trinidad and British Guiana and the main cable to Turks Island meet at Barbados, where the central wireless telegraph station, at which traffic from the smaller colonies is collected and transferred to the cable, is also to be situated. When this system is established Barbados will be extremely well served by cable services, having at its disposal, in addition to the new lines, the Western Union Line to Miami (Florida) and the Western Telegraph Company's Line to Brazil.

12. The prospects of oil development are still uncertain. The British Union Oil Company reduced their drilling programme to narrow limits during the year, but still carry out some prospecting work, and have nearly completed an oil bunkering station with a storage capacity of about 20,000 tons.

III.—FINANCIAL.

(1) Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The gross revenue and expenditure for the last five years have been as follows:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1919–20	420,136	351,851
1920–21	454,286	508,391
1921–22	340,814	409,055
1922–23	519,213	402,524
1923–24	444,646	420,461

These amounts, however, include receipts and payments on account of loans. Excluding special payments and receipts of this nature, but including annual charges for interest and sinking funds, normal revenue for 1923–24 was £427,489, as compared with a normal revenue of £401,087 in the previous year. The ordinary expenditure was £348,296, as against £350,860 in 1922–23.

2. At the end of 1921–22 the indebtedness of the Colony to the Colonial Bank was liquidated by the issue of £65,000 in ten-year debentures at 6 per cent., which were taken up by the Bank, and a special tax was imposed to meet the interest and sinking fund on these bonds. The results of the last two years, however, having been unexpectedly favourable, arrangements were made with the Bank during 1923–24 to pay off the debentures at a premium of 5 per cent. After completing this transaction the credit balance on the 31st March, 1924, was £96,486, as compared with £72,302 at the end of the previous financial year. The year 1921–22 had closed with a debit of £65,401, so that the recovery made during the last two years has been very remarkable.

3. It is proposed that a large part of the surplus should be devoted to the re-establishment of a reserve fund.

Revenue.

4. The excess of normal revenue over that of the previous year, viz., £26,402, is mainly accounted for by considerable increases in customs receipts and income tax. The special tax imposed in 1922–23 to meet the interest on the debentures referred to in paragraph 2 was not re-imposed for the year under report. Indeed the outlook had been considered so favourable that the Government had also proposed to repeal the customs surcharge of 20 per cent., which had been imposed in order to re-establish

the equilibrium between revenue and expenditure lost during the years 1920–22. The Assembly, however, voted for the retention of this tax, which was continued in effect until April, 1924.

5. The estimate of revenue for the year 1923–24, including the Customs Surtax above referred to, totalled £382,294, and was exceeded in actual results by £45,195. Nearly all heads of revenue gave better returns than were anticipated. The principal items of increase as compared with receipts for 1922–23 were :—

	Total Receipts.	*Increase over* 1922–3.
	£	£
Customs	**222,440**	**16,479**
Post Office	**13,911**	**1,491**
Water Works	**21,533**	**2,939**
Income Tax	**31,869**	**13,625**

6. These results were due to a fairly good sugar crop, combined with favourable prices. It should be explained, however, that the income tax is assessed on the results of the previous calendar year, so that the favourable situation in 1923–24 is not reflected in the income tax returns, though these are much higher than in the year 1922–23, when they were based on the results of the depressed period included in 1921–22. The estimated receipts from income tax for the current year, which are assessed on 1923 results, are £120,000. The rates of tax have remained unchanged, varying between 2d. in the pound for incomes of £200 to 3s. 6d. for incomes over £10,000, on a graduated scale, e.g., the tax payable on a taxable income of £1,000 is £25, on £2,000 £87 10s., on £5,000 £375, and on £10,000 £1,063.

7. Out of the normal revenue of £427,489, the amount raised by customs and excise duties was £284,069, or about 66½ per cent. Approximately £60,000 was received from Government services such as post office, water works, railway, wireless station and others, or about 14 per cent., and the remainder from taxes, licences, fees and miscellaneous sources. In considering the sources of revenue it must be borne in mind that a very considerable sum is raised by direct taxation for parochial purposes. In 1923 the total raised by parochial taxation was £95,690.

Expenditure.

8. The normal expenditure, excluding expenditures under loan funds and repayment of debt, was £348,296. The slight decrease below 1922–23 figures was due principally to services in several departments not being up to full establishment. The general cost of administration remained much the same as in the previous year.

9. The expenditure on services of a commercial or semi-commercial nature, viz., Railway, Water supplies, Post Office and Wireless Station was approximately £71,000, that on debt charges, pensions, and subsidies £46,440 and the balance £230,756 on general administrative services, including education.

10. The heads of expenditure showing the heaviest outlay are given below compared with the figures for the previous year.

	1923–24	1922–3.
	£	£
Police	36,537	38,377
Education	41,422	42,886
Medical Services	32,724	31,774
Water Works	43,040	44,263
Debt Charges	91,735	21,634
		(v. note below).

Education is aided, but not entirely supported by the Government, though practically the whole of the teachers' salaries in aided schools is borne by public funds. Medical Services include Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, Leper Asylum and Quarantine Services.

The expenditure under Water Works includes interest and sinking fund payments on the loan raised to purchase the system; these charges amount to £16,875 annually. The bulk of the population is supplied free from public stand pipes. It is estimated that the approximate cost of the free supplies in 1923, including their share of interest charges, was £24,500.

Debt Charges included £68,250 paid to redeem debentures held by the Colonial Bank (v. paragraph 2).

11. Of the total normal expenditure, £133,538 is accounted for under personal emoluments and £214,658 under other charges.

12. As compared with the expenditure in 1913–14, the total expenditure on ordinary administrative services, excluding services newly established since that date and charges for debt, has increased by about 40 per cent.

(2) PUBLIC DEBT.

13. The public debt at the end of 1923 was £592,400, as compared with £662,400 in 1922, and the value of the sinking funds £228,838, as against £220,153 at the end of the previous year.

14. As compared with the pre-war period, the annual charges on account of public debt for the year 1924–25 are estimated at £33,440, against £20,944 in 1913–14. Since 1913–14 the funded

public debt has been increased by £155,500, of which £65,000 has been devoted to the purchase and reconstruction of the railway and £86,000 to other public works, some of which, viz., extension of the Police Barracks, repair of Wharf Walls, and erection of a new lighthouse are still uncompleted.

(3) BANKS.

15. *Savings Bank.*—The total sum to the credit of depositors on the 31st December, 1923, was £592,403, and the value of the invested funds £642,565. The number of depositors was 11,967. The corresponding figures for 1922 were: Deposits, £582,748; value of invested funds, £646,519; number of depositors, 12,421.

16. *Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.*—Following the sharp slump in sugar values in 1920–21, borrowers were unable to repay loans taken from this bank, and on the 31st May, 1921, when the accounting year for the bank closes, there was outstanding £462,107. The Bank owed to the Commercial Banks £325,000. The position was partially met by the unaccustomed course of inviting deposits from private depositors, from whom £120,000 was received on deposit at 6 per cent., and additional assistance was obtained from the Canadian Bank of Commerce. These measures were, however, not sufficient to enable demands to be met for 1922 in respect to the crops to be reaped in 1923, and arrangements were made that advances made to the Sugar Bank for financing the 1923 crop should be guaranteed by the Government. The guarantee also covered the private deposits above referred to. Under this guarantee further advances were secured from the Commercial Banks for the purposes of the 1923 crop.

17. As a condition of the guarantee certain restrictions were placed on the loans for agricultural purposes made by the Bank, which had the effect of reducing loans to urgent requirements and limiting them to borrowers who might otherwise have been unable to obtain credit.

18. The improved conditions during the last two years have enabled the Bank to re-establish its position and pay off outstanding advances obtained from the Commercial Banks. On the 31st May, 1923, the outstanding loans were reduced to £131,605, practically all of which was due in respect of advances on the crop of 1921. All advances from the Commercial Banks had been repaid, and the Bank had £115,000 in hand towards crop requirements for 1924. Since then the Bank has been able to give notice that all private deposits would be repaid on demand, or in any event by November, 1924, after which date no further interest would be payable. Though the Bank was in a position to repay all depositors early in 1924, it was felt that those who

had come to its assistance in this way in a time of crisis were entitled to reasonable notice of withdrawal to enable them to seek other investments. Pending repayment, however, the rate of interest payable on these deposits was reduced from 6 per cent. to 5 per cent.

19. The Acts embodying the Government guarantee and the consequent restrictions on loans were repealed.

20. The position of the Bank may therefore be regarded as restored to normal, a very satisfactory recovery from the difficulties encountered in 1920 and 1921.

21. The Bank was originally established in 1906 with a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Government towards the Sugar Industry in Barbados. By profits in operation this capital has been increased to £160,886 on the 31st May, 1923. The annual amount advanced for agricultural purposes, however, often greatly exceeds this, advances being obtained from the Commercial Banks for loan to planters under the special security of the Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank Acts. The Bank is thus enabled to play a considerable part in the financing of the annual sugar crop, and its restoration to normal conditions is an important feature in the outlook for 1924.

IV.—TRADE, AGRICULTURE, AND INDUSTRY.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

1. The total value of imports and exports for the last five years has been :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1919	3,893,458	3,305,382
1920	5,145,537	4,865,894
1921	2,642,273	1,467,903
1922	2,480,320	1,259,794
1923	2,531,882	2,189,740

The figures relating to Trade are for the calendar year 1923.

The excess of imports over exports is a regular feature of the returns, and may at first sight seem curious in the case of a Colony dependent so largely on agriculture. Various factors contribute to make up the difference, though in years where it is very large, such as 1921 and 1922, the poor return from the sugar crop is mainly responsible. In normal years, however, returns from the shipping trade and remittances from abroad, both personal and on account of investments held abroad, are probably the chief factors in effecting a balance. There are a large number of Barbadians who have emigrated to Panama, Cuba and the United States, and these send very considerable remittances to their relatives here. The amount sent through the Post Office by money order from these countries was only £41,000 in 1923, but remittances by draft and currency notes bulk much larger. It would not be surprising to find these total over £100,000, but no accurate information can be obtained. The fact that exports are valued at f.o.b. prices and imports at the prices at the port of shipment, including exchange, may also be a not unimportant point when exchanges rule high, as they have done in the case of America and Canada during 1923.

Imports.

2. Imports for 1923 exceeded those of the previous year by £41,562 only.

The principal increases were in estate supplies, motor vehicles, haberdashery and machinery for sugar and rum. Examples are given below :—

	Value.	*Increase over* 1922.
	£	£
Animals (living)	45,083	22,947
Bags and sacks (empty) ...	21,217	17,818
Butter	42,276	13,347
Motor Vehicles	23,969	11,529
Haberdashery	34,973	16,267
Machinery, Sugar & Rum ...	60,830	51,703
Manures	139,225	51,606
Wood Shingles	40,084	14,743

3. Notable decreases occurred under :—

	Value.	*Decrease under* 1922.
	£	£
Cotton goods	199,238	31,736
Fish, dried	97,433	24,350
Flour	150,535	27,928
Oats	70,024	15,606
Beef, salt	39,610	15,108

In these cases, however, the decreases were due more to alterations in values than to falling off in quantities, in fact the quantity of flour imported was actually larger than in the previous year.

4. The total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	988,682
Raw materials	419,159
Manufactured articles	1,013,943
Miscellaneous	92,198
Specie	7,900
	£2,521,882

Exports.

5. Of the exports, £1,897,961 was represented by local produce and the balance by re-exports, including coal for shipping.

As compared with 1922, the value of the principal articles of local produce exported was as follows :—

	1922.	1923.	*Increase.*
	£	£	£
Sugar	503,398	1,226,014	722,616
Molasses	409,984	594,557	184,573
Rum	816	1,010	194
Cotton	15,810	39,255	23,445

The greatly increased value of sugar exported was due partly to an increase in the sugar crop, but still more to a marked advance in prices.

The greater part of the rum manufactured is consumed locally; only a small fraction is exported.

Cotton exports totalled 432,061 lb., as compared with 174,511 lb. in the previous year.

Other articles locally produced or manufactured appearing in the exports are biscuits, £4,792; fruits and nuts, £8,809; building lime, £3,754; manjak, £5,928; fresh vegetables, £5,114; and bay rum £1,193.

Biscuits are manufactured locally from imported flour. A Bay Rum plant was established during the year.

6. The prices prevailing for sugar, sugar products, and cotton for the last six years have been :—

	1918			1919			1920			1921			1922			1923		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Sugar, per ton ..	20	10	0	28	10	0	63	15	0	22	10	0	16	5	0	25	10	0
Molasses, per gallon..	0	1	7½	0	1	10	0	3	1	0	1	5	0	1	1	0	1	3
Cotton, per lb ..	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	1	5	0	1	10	0	1	10	0	1	10
Rum, per gallon ..	0	2	6	0	8	0	0	4	6	0	12	0	0	2	1	0	2	0

TRANSIT.

7. The value of goods entered for transhipment was £230,048. The figures for the transit trade for the last three years are as follows :—

	£
1921	166,075
1922	145,756
1923	230,048

BUNKERING TRADE.

8. During 1923, 111 steamers were coaled, taking 29,628 tons. The falling off in this business since the termination of the War is shewn by the following figures :—

	No. of steamers coaled.	*Coal supplied. Tons.*
1918	193	59,945
1919	343	90,658
1920	215	74,599
1921	97	34,308
1922	113	33,374
1923	111	29,628

9. An oil bunkering station has been established by the British Union Oil Company but has not been put in operation pending the establishment of final conclusions in respect to the prospects of local production of oil.

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

10. The following table shews the distribution of the import trade according to origin for the last five years :—

	1919 per cent.	1920 per cent.	1921 per cent.	1922 per cent.	1923 per cent.
United Kingdom	19·0	30·3	35·9	31·6	32·9
Canada	18·6	18·5	22·5	22·1	24·1
Other parts of British Empire	18·3	12·3	12·7	16·1	16·6
United States of America ...	39·8	35·7	22·2	24·1	19·6
Other foreign countries ...	4·3	3·2	6·7	6·1	6·8

Imports from the United Kingdom for 1923 were valued at £827,449; from Canada, £603,628; from other parts of the British Empire, £417,219; United States of America, £494,220; Foreign countries, £171,466.

11. It is satisfactory to note that the proportion of imports derived from the British Empire has increased from 57·7 per cent. in 1918 to 73·6 per cent. in 1923. The rate of exchange has of course favoured trade with the British Empire as against the United States of America, though in the case of Canada the preference has been only slight.

12. The principal articles imported from Canada and the United States of America, with the respective values, were :—

	Canada. £	*U.S. America.* £
Boots and Shoes	1,141	2,909
Butter	6,672	7,844
Oilmeal (cattle food)	35,489	1,708
Coal	—	49,009
Cornmeal	4,890	29,814
Flour	120,416	29,439
Oats	69,279	20
Manures	68,543	—
Salt Beef	1,215	36,794
Pork	7,352	41,776
Wood (various)	138,661	48,303

DESTINATION OF EXPORTS.

13. This is shewn below :—

To	1919. £	1920. £	1921. £	1922. £	1923. £
United Kingdom	343,887	1,055,346	105,687	149,058	427,677
Canada ...	1,470,193	1,266,134	653,332	655,649	1,280,543
Other parts of British Empire	207,681	300,165	137,183	106,886	121,593
United States of America ...	87,290	567,251	67,429	44,245	53,048
Other Foreign Countries	85,822	371,188	10,019	9,130	15,100
	2,194,873	3,560,084	973,650	964,968	1,897,961

14. The Sugar Crop (including Molasses) was distributed as follows :—

	Sugar. £	*Molasses.* £
United Kingdom ...	371,600	4,900
Canada	823,449	456,961
Newfoundland	18	74,425
United States of America	—	49,033
Holland	12,863	—
Elsewhere	18,084	9,238
	1,226,014	594,557

The distribution displays no very striking changes, but the proportion taken by the United Kingdom was rather greater than last year, that taken by Canada being roughly about the same.

AGRICULTURE.

15. According to the Customs Returns for the year 1923, 43,498 tons of vacuum pan crystals, 5,562 tons of muscovado sugar and 6,359,158 wine gallons of molasses, equal, at 110 gallons per puncheon, to 57,811 puncheons of molasses of all grades, were exported of the total value of £1,820,571, made up as follows :—

					£
White Crystal Sugar	1·50	tons	valued	at	45
Dark ,, ,,	43,496·70	,,	,,	,,	1,109,166
Muscovado ,, ,,	5,562·00	,,	,,	,,	116,803
	49,060·20	,,	,,	,,	1,226,014
Fancy Molasses ...	5,187,339	gallons	..	,,	518,734
Choice ,, ...	1,121,669	..	..	,,	74,778
Vacuum pan ,, ...	50,150	..	..	,,	1,045
					1,820,571

16. The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

1919	**69,628 tons.**
1920	**48,212 „**
1921	**36,005 „**
1922	**51,074 „**
1923	**62,711 „**

The increase of 11,637 tons over the crop of the previous year was caused mainly by the better distribution of the rainfall and by the growing now by most of the planters of the better varieties of the seedling sugar-canes. Owing to the increased sugar production and to the better prices received for sugar and its by-products, as will be noted above, the value of sugar and its by-products exceeded that of the previous year by £920,913.

17. The Director of Agriculture continues to report on the excellent results of the seedling canes B.H. 10 (12), Ba. 6,032 and Ba. 11,569 when compared with the White Transparent. In the recent estimate made by that officer he points out that, assuming that only 20,000 acres were planted annually with the B.H. 10 (12), Ba. 6,032 and Ba. 11,569, the value of the extra sugar that would have been obtained over the White Transparent for the eight years ended 1922 was in round numbers $20,000,000.00. It should be recollected, however, that this calculation includes a period of abnormal values.

18. Reports have again been received on the increase in the attacks of the root borer (*Diaprepres abbreviatus*, Linn) and the brown hard back (*Lachnosterna smithi*, Arrow), which seem to be spreading further inland and, unless effective measures of protection can be taken, the time is coming when their attacks will seriously affect the sugar production of the Island.

19. The mosaic disease of the sugar-cane has shown signs of diminution since the appointment of an Inspector to see that precautionary measures are carried out.

COTTON.

20. The following table gives the comparison of cotton crops by the crop, that is, from October 1 of one year to September 30 of the next year :—

	Crop of 1921–22	*Crop of* 1922–23	*Increase.*
Acres	**1,092**	**2,767**	**1,675**
Quantity, lb.	**200,104**	**397,711**	**197,607**
Value, £	**17,596**	**36,107**	**18,511**

It may be mentioned that, owing to the better yields that have been obtained from the cotton improved by the Department of Agriculture, larger areas are now being planted, that for 1923 being 2,767 acres. The average for the previous five years was 1,323 acres.

21. Mr. Wolstenholme, of Messrs. Wolstenholme & Holland, the Cotton Specialist, reports most favourably on cotton sent from Barbados. He writes :—

> " So far this season Barbados cotton has sold freely, and it is better liked than Leeward Island cotton. There is no doubt that your Island produces a very excellent type of cotton, and with any improvement in the fine trade it would sell very freely. We could get a higher price from the French spinners than we are doing were it not for the fact that the franc is so depreciated."

22. Owing to the better weather conditions the vegetable crops planted for local consumption were somewhat better than in the previous year.

SHIPPING.

23. Vessels entered numbered 1,213, with a net tonnage of 1,600,199, compared with 1,141 vessels and tonnage 1,444,721 for 1922. The increase was principally in the number of steamships, which numbered 54 more than the previous year.

24. The number of seamen engaged at the port was 3,358, and 3,250 were discharged here. The amount brought in as wages by seamen belonging to the Colony is estimated at about £35,000.

GENERAL.

25. As the statistics show, the year was an exceptionally prosperous one. The sugar industry conditions govern all others, and good results in that are reflected throughout the trade figures. Shipping plays a noteworthy part, however, perhaps more important than is generally realized. In addition to the amount brought in by seamen's wages (£35,000), the value of coal supplied (£59,000), water (£2,600) and Port Dues (£7,000), the value of ships' stores furnished, repairs executed, agents' commissions, and money spent on shore by passengers and crews must amount to a considerable sum.

26. Rates of Exchange during the year on New York varied between 3⅝ per cent. in April to 11¾ per cent. in November. The Canadian rate ranged from 1¾ to 2¾ below the New York rate. Exchange on London was sold at ½ per cent. approximately and remained constant throughout the year.

V.—EDUCATION.

1. The schools in the Island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of the Elementary Schools, almost entirely supported by Government grants, are not Government schools. They are supervised, however, by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons nominated by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspector of Schools and his Assistants are nominated by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Central Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

2. There are three grades of schools recognised by the Board, viz., Elementary Schools, of which there were 134 in 1923; Second-Grade Schools, six in number; and three First-Grade Schools, viz., Harrison College, the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. Harrison and Queen's Colleges are situated in Bridgetown, and the Lodge School, a boarding school, in the Parish of St. John, about twelve miles from town. The Elementary Schools, in their turn, are annually classified as first, second or third-class schools, according to the efficiency of each school in work, tone, etc. There are also three "ragged schools" for very poor children.

3. The number of children on the school registers was 21,030 and the average attendance 12,882, figures which show no marked change from last year. It is sometimes said that a large number of the children of the Colony have no opportunity of education, but there is very little ground for this opinion. The number of children between 5 and 12 years of age, according to census results in 1921, was about 26,000, and the number returned as attending educational institutions was 25,533. Allowing for a certain proportion over 12, and perhaps a very few under 5, the number receiving no education cannot be large.

4. In respect to secondary education the Colony is exceptionally well provided. There is, however, an admitted need for a second grade girls' school, aided by the Government, and a movement has been initiated to secure a suitable site and premises. The Government has refused to recommend to the Legislature that the whole cost of the establishment of the school should be borne from public funds, but has expressed its readiness to support contributions towards maintenance expenses as in the case of other schools, which are, as explained above, not the property of the Government.

5. The expenditure on education was £41,860, or rather under 12 per cent. of the total normal expenditure. Of this amount £1,430 is the cost of the Education Board and head office, about

£8,400 is applied to first and second grade schools, and about £30,000 goes to elementary schools, the remainder being attributable to various incidental and miscellaneous expenses. Of the £30,000 applied to elementary schools, £26,290 was allocated to teachers' salaries. The fees collected in the elementary schools were £1,593.

6. The standard in the elementary schools is sometimes criticized, but, considering the circumstances and conditions of the population, is not discreditable. Here, as elsewhere, there is much questioning as to whether the system of education followed is really successful, having regard to the true aims of education; it is unquestionably imperfect, but no practicable alternative has yet been devised. There is no doubt that greatly increased insistence on manual training is very desirable. Promising results have been obtained by the establishment of school gardens in many schools, and a limited amount of technical training in a few others. Space for gardens and workshops is, however, usually lacking, and the facilities for trained instruction limited. Similarly limitations of space preclude in the majority of cases the provision of play grounds, and make organized games or physical training impossible in the case of the elementary schools. A system of trade apprenticeship bursaries has been formulated for the instruction of selected pupils after leaving school as apprentices to master workmen. The results will be watched with interest. The system is being initiated on an experimental scale.

FIRST AND SECOND-GRADE SCHOOLS.

7. The second grade schools enter candidates for the Senior Cambridge Local Examinations and School Certificate Examinations. Of 41 candidates entered in 1923, 25 passed.

8. The attendance at second grade schools was 386, and at first grade schools 411.

9. A feature of the first grade education in this Colony is the attention given to scientific training, with special reference to agriculture. An additional grant of £500 a year has recently been made to permit of improvement in this respect at the Lodge School.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

10. The Government maintains an Industrial School in a country parish for juvenile offenders and vagrant youths. During 1923 there was an average of 175 boys. The boys are trained principally in agricultural work and also in trades such as carpentry, tailoring, etc. There is also in connection with the school, at some distance away, an institution for girls with 44 inmates.

The girls are trained in domestic work, sewing, and such agricultural work as is customarily done by women in this Colony.

11. The school work at these institutions is reported to compare not unfavourably with the average standard in the elementary schools.

12. It cannot be claimed that, as reformatory institutions, the schools have been as successful as might be hoped. The difficulties are great, not the least being the entire lack of healthy home influences in the case of the great majority of boys and girls sent to the industrial schools. At the same time, the schools do useful work as preventive influences in the case of many who would otherwise be entirely absorbed by the idle or criminal classes, and a fair proportion of those trained at them make good.

VI.—VITAL AND SOCIAL STATISTICS AND PUBLIC HEALTH.

1. The last census was taken in 1921 and showed a decrease of population since 1911 of 15,671. Some of the more important figures of this census, compared with that of 1911, are given below :—

	1911.	1921.
Total population	171,983	156,312
Number of whites	12,063	10,429
Number of blacks	118,387	111,677
Number of mixed	41,533	34,216
Number per square mile, St. Michael ...	3,825	3,623
,, ,, ,, whole Island	1,034	940
Percentage of females	59·2	59·7
Number of agricultural labourers ...	36,233	32,728
Attending educational institutions ...	34,244	25,533
Afflicted persons	1,200	1,124

2. The population on the 31st December, 1923, was estimated to be 158,146, but as this estimate depends on emigration and immigration figures which experience has shewn to be often seriously inaccurate, not much reliance can be placed upon it. These figures show 11,676 departures from the Colony during the year and 11,611 arrivals.

3. A feature of the year was the rush of emigration to the United States of America (New York), for which 2,535 passports were issued. Numbers of the best trained and most enterprising of the younger generation leave the Colony in this way, and a large proportion of them send assistance to their relatives to follow them. Of those who left during 1923 :—

980 were classed as domestic servants.
339 ,, ,, ,, seamstresses.
414 ,, ,, ,, artizans.

Departures for Cuba to work at the sugar crop numbered 307, and 711 returned.

4. The birth-rate during the year was 37·44 per 1,000 and the death-rate 37·11. The percentage of illegitimate births was 70·1.

5. The following table gives results for the last five years :—

	Birth-rate.	*Illegitimate Percentage.*	*Death-rate.*
1919	33·94	67·00	38·21 per 1,000.
1920	37·07	67·66	32·90 ,,
1921	32·62	68·81	43·42 ,,
1922	34·33	66·97	22·41 ,,
1923	37·44	70·1	37·11 ,,

6. Up to the present there has been no registration of the causes of death in this Colony, so that it is impossible to form a confident opinion as to the true causes of the unfortunately high death-rate. Ages are, however, recorded in burial certificates, and indicate that the largest factor is the deplorably high rate of infant mortality. The number of infant deaths per 1,000 births during the last five years has been :—

Year.	*Infant deaths.*
1919	352 per 1,000 births.
1920	220 ,,
1921	401 ,,
1922	187 ,,
1923	371 ,,

7. The causes of this high mortality are a subject of controversy, but it is generally admitted that improper and inadequate feeding is very largely responsible. The high illegitimacy rate no doubt contributes to the mortality, but is not in itself a sufficient explanation when compared with rates in neighbouring Colonies. According to the census of 1921, the disproportion between males and females of the fertile ages was very great, the number of males between 15 and 50 years of age being 26,864 and the number of females 49,531. So grave a disproportion can scarcely fail to have marked social effects, and it seems probable that it must be a factor contributing towards the high rate of infant mortality. In the absence of accurate mortality statistics, however, it is impossible to speak with confidence. It is satisfactory to be able to report that an Act providing for the registration of causes of death has now been placed on the Statute Book and will shortly be put into effect.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

8. Barbados enjoys natural and climatic advantages from a health standpoint such as can scarcely be found in any other

tropical place. Malaria is unknown, there are no extremes of heat or cold, the soil is well drained and the water supply unexceptionable; it is, moreover, constantly swept by the trade winds. In these circumstances it is an unusually healthy place of residence for all who are able to secure for themselves reasonable freedom from insanitary surroundings. The diseases of insanitation, however, viz., enteric fever and dysentery, are unfortunately common.

9. The number of cases of enteric fever notified during the last five years has been :—

1919	508
1920	1,012
1921	3,070
1922	1,084
1923	735

The serious epidemic of 1921 fortunately subsided to some extent during 1922, but the conditions favouring the spread of the disease still remain. The ordinary type of enteric fever encountered is of a mild character.

10. Proposals for a comprehensive review of the system of public health organisation have been placed before the Legislature by the Government at the suggestion of the Secretary of State. The question is one which is full of more than usual difficulty, owing to the density of population and existence of vested rights, but the high and fluctuating death-rate, combined with the undue prevalence of enteric fever, indicates unmistakably that improved sanitary methods are an urgent need.

11. Apart from the conditions above referred to, the Island is exceptionally healthy and remarkably free from epidemic disease.

12. A Venereal Disease Clinic, established at the General Hospital in 1922, has been attended by steadily increasing numbers. Subsidiary clinics in other parts of the Island are much needed.

13. The treatment of inmates of the Leper Asylum with Ethyl Esters of Chaulmougra oil has been continued with very hopeful results in a number of less advanced cases. It is anticipated that it may be possible to discharge some of the inmates so treated during the current year.

14. The Colony is on the whole well provided with curative and remedial institutions, but experience indicates that greater attention to preventive measures is called for.

Criminal Statistics.

15. The following statement gives comparative figures for the last two years :—

	1922.	1923.
Total number of persons committed to prison...	1,488	1,359
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	46	37
Daily average in prison (males) ...	234	188
Daily average in prison (females) ...	55	49
Police Court convictions	10,986	10,873
Police Court convictions for prædial larceny	561	729
Convictions by Superior Court ...	82	69
Convictions by Superior Court for prædial larceny	—	2

Conclusions should not be hastily drawn from variations in these statistics, which are affected by many factors. There has, however, been a continuous decline in convictions during the last four years. The boom of prosperity during 1920 was accompanied by high criminal records. During that year the average daily number in prison was 334 men and 82 women.

16. The cost of living shewed no appreciable change as compared with 1922, as far as can be judged in the absence of accurately compiled statistical information. Food prices remained about the same. As compared with pre-war conditions, it is generally assumed that the cost of living in Barbados has advanced by not less than 50 per cent. This appears to be a conservative figure.

VII.—COMMUNICATIONS.

By Sea.

1. The only subsidised line is the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, which gives a fortnightly service between Halifax and St. John (N.B.), Bermuda and the West Indies. The upward and downward ships meet at Barbados. The subsidy is paid by the Canadian Government. An arrangement entered into in the Canada–West Indies Trade Agreement of 1920 for an improved service with a subsidy towards which the West Indies were to contribute has not yet been put into effect, as it has not been found possible to provide a service of the type laid down at the subsidy prescribed. The seasonal character of the passenger traffic and northward cargoes is always a difficulty in dealing with West Indian steamship services. The central position of Barbados, however, secures for it frequent services in spite of the absence of subsidies.

2. From England the Harrison Line, Leyland Line, and Royal Dutch West India Line (fortnightly) are regular services. During the winter months vessels of the Elder and Fyffe Company also gave a passenger and mail service, outward and homeward voyages, during a limited period in spring and summer.

In addition to Royal Mail Steam Packet Canadian Service the Canadian Government Merchant Marine were also regular callers, but have only very limited passenger accommodation.

To New York, the Quebec Steamship Company give a regular passenger service via the northern West Indian Islands, and the fine steamers of the Lamport and Holt Line call fortnightly on the voyage from Buenos Ayres to New York.

In addition to these regular callers other lines call periodically. In fact, except to Jamaica, communications from Barbados are good and frequent. During 1923, 402 steamers brought mails, 86 being from the United States of America and 183 from the United Kingdom.

TELEGRAPH.

3. There are three telegraph lines, viz., the West India and Panama Company's service via Cuba, the Western Union Company via Miami, and the Western Telegraph Company via Brazil.

4. The West India and Panama Company's contract terminates on the 30th September, 1924, and arrangements for the establishment of the new West Indian System of Cable and Wireless Telegraph Stations, with its centre at Barbados, are now in progress.

5. The Government Wireless Telegraph Station gave uninterrupted service with neighbouring stations and "ship to shore." This station will be closed when the central Wireless Telegraph Station in connection with the new system is opened.

INTERNAL.

6. In addition to the local railway, purchased by the Government in 1916, there is a growing service of motor buses on country roads and in Bridgetown and the neighbourhood. The number has increased rapidly during the last two years. One service between Bridgetown and Speightstown is subsidised by the Government.

7. The increase of traffic in recent years has put a heavy burden on the roads, the condition of which is now a source of universal complaint. Proposals for placing the arterial road system under a central authority have been submitted to the Legislature, but a decision has not yet been arrived at. Under the existing system the maintenance of all roads is in the hands of the parochial authorities, funds being derived from local rates, assisted by a Government grant.

W. E. Jackson,

Acting Governor.

Government House,

10*th September*, 1924.

Colonial Reports, Etc.

The following recent reports, etc., relating to His Majesty's Colonial Possessions have been issued, and may be obtained from the sources indicated on the title page:—

ANNUAL.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Year.*
1197	Nigeria	1923
1198	Weihaiwei	"
1199	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	1922–1923
1200	Ashanti	"
1201	Gambia	1923
1202	Bahamas	1923–1924
1203	Hongkong	1922
1204	Nyasaland	1923
1205	Cayman Islands	1922
1206	Cyprus	1923
1207	Gold Coast	1922–1923
1208	Trinidad and Tobago	1923
1209	Zanzibar Protectorate	"
1210	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1923–1924
1211	Swaziland	1923
1212	Basutoland	1923–1924
1213	Turks and Caicos Islands	1923
1214	Fiji	"
1215	British Honduras	"
1216	New Hebrides	"
1217	Gibraltar	"
1218	Jamaica	"
1219	Sierra Leone	"
1220	Uganda	"
1221	Grenada	"
1222	British Guiana	"
1223	St. Vincent	"
1224	St. Helena	"

MISCELLANEOUS.

No.	*Colony, etc.*	*Subject.*
83	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1910.
84	West Indies	Preservation of Ancient Monuments, etc.
85	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1911.
86	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1912.
87	Ceylon	Mineral Survey.
88	Imperial Institute	Oil-seeds, Oils, etc.
89	Southern Nigeria	Mineral Survey, 1913.
90	St. Vincent	Roads and Land Settlement.
91	East Africa Protectorate	Geology and Geography of the northern part of the Protectorate.
92	Colonies—General	Fishes of the Colonies.
93	Pitcairn Island	Report on a visit to the Island by the High Commissioner for the Western Pacific.

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COLONIAL REPORTS—ANNUAL.

No. 1274.

BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1924-25.

(*For Reports for 1922–23 and 1923–24 see Nos. 1175
and 1225, price 9d. and 1/- respectively*).

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No. 1274.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1924–25.

I.—Geographical and Historical Note.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North, and longitude 59° 37′ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 940 to the square mile. In size it is, therefore, comparable to the Isle of Wight, and in latitude to the Gambia or Madras; in climate to neither.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them " Los Barbados " on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605 it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship " Olive Blossom " in the name of King James I.

4. James I granted Barbados to the Earl of Marlborough, and, in 1625, Sir William Courteen, a London merchant under Lord Marlborough's protection, commenced to colonize the Island. Some thirty settlers landed on the leeward coast, and founded Holetown.

5. Charles I, in 1627, granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who agreed to settle an annuity of £300 on Lord Marlborough to compromise his claim.

6. In 1628 Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of pre-occupation against Lord Carlisle, and under this last grant the " Leeward " settlers at Holetown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's " Windward " settlers, who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died, leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby caused an Act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the Island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the government when the Commonwealth was established, though many Royalist families found refuge in Barbados at that time.

9. With the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights, and, in 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim and the heirs of Lord Carlisle.

10. After the discharge of all the liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

11. In order to raise this money a 4½ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the Island.

12. This was a constant source of grievance to the colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838, when the position of the British West Indian planter was very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

13. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage.

14. Next to the House of Commons and the House of Assembly in Bermuda the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

15. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor. Members of the Assembly are elected annually.

16. Barbados is by its natural and climatic conditions the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by residents in neighbouring colonies as a health resort.

17. The anopheles mosquito (the carrier of malaria) is not found in the Island. This is a somewhat curious fact, since it is certain that they must be imported not infrequently in vessels which in many cases lie in the " Careenage " or inner harbour for considerable periods, on arrival from places where they are prevalent. The conditions, however, are evidently unfavourable to their breeding ashore.

18. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and between November and May

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the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° F. For the greater part of the year the temperature is delightfully equable, and the heat is seldom oppressive. Few places, indeed, enjoy a more pleasant climate. The winter months are regarded as the "Tourist Season."

19. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks are unknown.

II.—General Observations.

1. The year 1924–25 was the third of the series which completed the recovery from the slump of 1921–22. The years 1922–23 and 1923–24 saw the liquidation of debts, and the year 1924–25 the re-establishment of a reserve fund and the accumulation of a surplus. The surplus was increased by an error in estimating the taxable incomes under the Income Tax Act, which brought in a larger return than was expected. The Income Tax collected in 1924–25 was, in respect of incomes received during the year 1923–24, the most prosperous of recent years.

2. During the year 1924–25 the sum of £100,000 was placed to a reserve fund to be drawn on only in cases of emergency or public calamity.

After deducting the amount placed to the reserve fund there was a balance left in the Treasury at the 31st March, 1925, of £136,652.

3. The Colony may now be said to be in a satisfactory condition as far as its finances are concerned, and in a position to undertake some of the pressing problems which have been held over while it was undergoing its recovery. Three of the principal problems are the reconstruction of the roads of the Colony, which, owing to the increased motor and other traffic, have been allowed to fall into poor condition, the removal of the wreck "Guarany," which blocks part of the best anchorage in the harbour, and the erection of the new pumping station at the Belle to meet the difficulty which has been experienced in recent years in keeping up the water supply, especially during the crop season. This last work has since been authorised, and the sum of £38,000, which has been voted for carrying it out, will be advanced from the general revenue, but charged later to Loan Funds.

4. The crop for 1924 was a smaller one than that for 1923, but it compared favourably with previous years, being the best crop (excepting 1923) since 1919. The average price for sugar was also good, being about £1 per ton less than the previous year's price. The year 1924 can therefore be said to have been on the whole a good year.

5. The average rainfall for the Colony for 1924 was 53·24 in., which was 7·92 in. below the average for the 60 years ended 31st December, 1923.

The following is taken from the report on the Department of Agriculture for the year 1924.

The average rainfall for the years 1847 to 1906 was 62·48 in.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1847 ,, 1924 ,, 60·41 in.
,, ,, ,, ,, ,, 1907 ,, 1924 ,, 53·50 in.

During the past 18 years the highest rainfall was 70·78 in. in 1916 and the lowest 40·72 in. in 1921.

6. The revenue of the Colony exceeded that of the previous year by £60,000, but it must be explained that the Income Tax collected in 1924 (which was on incomes received during the year 1923) exceeded that collected in 1923 by £89,000. A comparison of the prosperity of the two years is shown by the taxable incomes for those years. The tax collected in 1924 (which was on 1923 incomes) amounted to £121,000, while it has been estimated that the taxable incomes received in 1924 (for the tax to be collected in 1925) would, at the same rate of taxation, bring in a revenue of £70,000.

7. The value of the imports for the year 1924 exceeded that for the year 1923 by £34,415, although the year 1923 was the more prosperous year, and though the value of local products exported during 1924 was less than that for 1923 by almost £300,000. This was probably due to the necessity of having to fill depleted stocks, due to a better spending capacity in the year 1923, and to orders carried forward from 1923. In a good year the amount spent on food for animals on plantations is considerably increased, and a comparison of the imports for the two years shows that the principal increase is on animal foods (bran, pollard, oilmeal, etc.), which exceeded the imports for 1923 by £105,000.

8. In view of the sound financial position of the Colony at the close of the year 1924–25, certain reductions in taxation and other public charges were recommended in connection with the Estimates for 1925–26, which were compiled accordingly. Since the Estimates were prepared, however, the price of sugar has fallen considerably, and the prospects for the immediate future are less rosy.

The principal reductions in taxation, etc., which were recommended, were as follows :—

(1) That machinery, firewood, charcoal, and old and worn clothing imported by parcel post and not for sale should be exempted from duty.

(2) That the stamp duties be reduced to the level at which they stood before their increase in 1921.

(3) That postal charges should revert to pre-war rates.

(4) That charges for water should be reduced by 15 per cent.

(5) That the Income Tax rates should be revised so as to secure a revenue of £35,000.

9. The construction of an all-British cable for the West Indies with Barbados as headquarters was completed during the year. The new cable is under the control of the Pacific Cable Board. A new cable has been laid from Turks Island to Barbados, and new cables from Barbados to Trinidad and British Guiana. A wireless station has also been erected to connect the cable with the Windward and Leeward Islands. Barbados is now in a specially favoured position as regards its cable communications, as in addition to the new cable it has the cables of the Western Union line to Miami (Florida), of the Western Telegraph Company's line to Brazil, and also the cables of the old West India and Panama Telegraph Company, which continues in operation with all its old lines.

10. Nothing further has been done in developing the oil prospects of the Colony, but the British Union Oil Company is still obtaining oil in small quantities from certain of the wells already drilled, and the company has completed its arrangements for an oil bunkering station.

During the year the British Union Oil Company submitted proposals for establishing a refinery for oil to be brought from the company's concessions in Maracaibo, and it applied for certain concessions in the event of the scheme maturing. The proposals were submitted to the Legislature and the concessions asked for were granted, but up to the present no further action has been taken in the matter by the company so far as the Colony is concerned.

11. Nothing much was done in the way of public works construction during 1924, but the repairs to the wharf walls were continued, and preparations were completed for building the lighthouse at the north end of the island, which had been under consideration for some time. The work on the lighthouse is now being pushed forward, and it is hoped that it may be finished early in 1926. A new water boat was purchased for the supply of water to the shipping in place of one of the old boats which was condemned. The total cost was £13,763.

12. Among the principal matters of legislation during the year were the Registration of Deaths Act, which came into operation from the 1st January, 1925; and a new Pension Act to take the

place of the Pension Insurance Scheme which has proved so unsatisfactory. The Act provides for the compulsory retirement of officers on reaching the age of 65, and this will result in a very considerable change in the heads of the principal departments of the Service and in the clergy. An Act to place the Civil Service of the Colony on a graded system came into force from the 1st April, 1924. The need for the re-organisation of the local Department of Agriculture was under consideration, but up to the close of the financial year nothing had been settled as to the best method of dealing with the matter. A Bill to establish a Department of Science and Agriculture has, however, since been passed by the Legislature. The Bill combines the Department of Agriculture with the Department of Chemistry and Agricultural Science, at present separate departments, and it is proposed to extend the experiments hitherto carried on in connection with sugar cane seedlings.

13. The sum of £3,000 was voted during the year to enable the Colony to take part in the British Empire Exhibition held at Wembley in 1924, and Barbados had its section in the West Indies and Atlantic Pavilion.

The Colony was also represented at the Imperial Scout Jamboree held at Wembley in August by a group of Barbados Scouts, who had a most interesting experience and were kindly entertained wherever they went.

14. On 25th July, 1924, the Anglican Church celebrated the Centenary of the Consecration of Dr. Coleridge as its first Bishop, and its formation as a diocese apart from that of London.

The day was declared a public holiday by an Act of the Legislature, and was duly observed in all the churches of the diocese. There was also a central act of worship at the Cathedral. At this service messages of congratulation were read from His Majesty the King, His Excellency the Governor, who was absent on leave at the time, and from the other dioceses of the Province. In 1824 there were 12 churches, 15 clergymen, and 8 schools. Now there are 55 churches and chapels, 51 clergymen, 110 Church schools, 9 first and second grade schools, and 1 college of university status.

15. A greater interest in political matters is shown by the increase in the number of voters registered during the past three years, as follows :—

1922	2,445
1923	3,252
1924	3,385

III.—Financial.

(1) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The gross Revenue and Expenditure for the last five years have been as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1920–21	454,286	508,391
1921–22	340,814	409,055
1922–23	519,213	402,524
1923–24	444,646	420,461
1924–25	504,696	364,530

These amounts includes receipts and payments on account of loans. Excluding special payments and receipts, the ordinary revenue for 1924–25 was £502,046, as compared with £427,489 in the previous year. The ordinary expenditure was £361,880, as against £348,296 in 1923–24.

2. At the 31st March, 1924, the balance in the Treasury was £96,486, and at the 31st March, 1925, this had been increased to £236,652. Of this balance £100,000 has been placed to a reserve fund, leaving a surplus of £136,652.

Revenue.

3. The excess in the total revenue over the previous year is mainly accounted for by the large receipts from Income Tax, the amount collected by this Tax being £121,314 in 1924, as compared with £31,869 for 1923. The revenue received from Customs and Excise was £17,464 less than the previous year, the other items being about the same.

The reduction in the Customs Revenue was due to the repeal of the Customs surcharge of 20 per cent., which had been imposed in 1922, and which was taken off from the 1st April, 1924.

4. The revenue received exceeded the estimate for the year by £97,290. The principal items of increase were :—

	£
Customs	21,547
Excise	5,953
Income Tax	56,314

5. The Income Tax is assessed on incomes received during the previous year, and as 1923 was the most prosperous of recent years the taxable incomes received that year yielded good returns, and through an error in underestimating certain incomes, which could not be fully ascertained until after the rates for 1924 had been fixed, the amount collected was £56,314 more than the amount estimated. The rates were the same as in 1923, and varied on a graduated scale between 2*d.* in the pound for incomes of £200 to 3*s.* 6*d.* for incomes exceeding £10,000.

6. In addition to the revenue raised by the Government the sum of £132,787 was raised by the various Parochial Boards for upkeep of their Institutions and for Poor Relief.

Expenditure.

7. The *ordinary* expenditure, excluding expenditure under loan funds, was £361,880, which was an increase of £13,584 over the *ordinary* expenditure for the previous year, but the *total* expenditure for the year was £55,931 *less* than that of the previous year.

8. The principal increases in the ordinary expenditure were under the heads: (1) Water Works, for pumping expenses, repairs to mains, etc.; (2) Subsidies and Grants; and (3) Public Works—a new laboratory for the bacteriologist—additions to the Lazaretto, etc. The only permanent increases were the small additions to personal emoluments under the new Clerical Service Act, which came into force from the 1st April, 1924.

9. The heads of expenditure showing the heaviest outlay are given below compared with the figures for the previous year:—

	1924–25. £	1923–24. £
Police	38,915	36,537
Education	41,174	41,422
Medical Services	34,493	32,724
Water Works	48,493	43,040
Debt Charges	16,364	91,735

Education is aided but not entirely supported by the Government, though practically the whole of the teachers' salaries in aided schools is borne from public funds. Medical Services include the hospital, lunatic asylum and leper asylum and quarantine services.

The expenditure under Water Works includes interest and sinking fund payments on the loan raised for purchasing and extending the system. Water is supplied from standpipes distributed all over the island, which is thus obtained free by the bulk of the population.

(2) PUBLIC DEBT.

10. The public debt at the close of 1924 was £591,000, as compared with £592,400 in 1923, and the value of the sinking funds was £247,636, as compared with £228,838 in 1923.

(3) BANKS.

11. *Government Savings Bank.*—The total sum to the credit of depositors on the 31st December, 1924, was £683,604, and the value of the invested funds was £766,287. The number of

depositors was 11,894. The corresponding figures for 1923 were : deposits £592,403, value of invested funds £642,565, number of depositors 11,967.

12. *Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.*—The Bank has completely recovered from the difficult position in which it was placed by the slump in sugar values in 1920–21. At the close of the accounting year 1921 the loans and interest outstanding amounted to £462,107, and of that amount at the close of the accounting year 1924 only £45,099 remained unpaid, and that amount is secured as a first lien against the land of the several plantations by which it is due.

13. The business done by the Bank during the year 1924–25 exceeded that of the two previous years, the loans made being £148,075, as compared with £115,065 in 1923–24 and £113,692 in 1922–23.

14. The Bank was established in 1906 with a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Government towards the assistance of the sugar industry of the Colony, which was in a very precarious condition at the time. This capital has been increased by the Bank to the sum of £165,960 at the 31st May, 1925.

IV.—Trade, Agriculture and Industry.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

1. The total value of imports and exports for the last five years has been :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1920	5,145,537	4,865,894
1921	2,642,273	1,467,903
1922	2,480,320	1,259,794
1923	2,521,882	2,189,740
1924	2,556,297	1,858,301

The figures relating to trade are for the calender year 1924.

The excess of imports over exports is a regular feature of the returns. Returns from the shipping trade, and remittances on account of investments held abroad, as well as remittances from Barbadians who have emigrated and assist their relatives remaining in the Island, help to make up a balance.

Imports.

2. The imports for 1924 exceeded those for the previous year by £34,415.

3. The principal increases were in the following items :—

	Value. £	*Increase.* £
Animal foods (bran, pollard, oilmeal, etc.)	155,558	105,295
Cotton goods	209,501	10,263
Flour	159,068	8,533
Motor vehicles ...	34,726	10,757
Pork, salted	68,215	18,889

4. The principal decreases were :—

	Value. £	*Decrease.* £
Butter	25,250	17,026
Haberdashery	22,702	12,271
Iron and steel manufactures	37,845	12,233
Machinery	43,136	17,694
Oats	45,303	24,721
Wood (hemlock, beech)	54,936	36,372
Wood (shingles) ...	19,369	20,715

5. The total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	978,654
Raw materials	368,757
Manufactured articles	1,104,453
Miscellaneous	95,433
Specie	9,000
	£2,556,297

Exports.

6. Of the exports £1,591,341 was represented by local produce and the balance by re-exports, including coal for shipping.

7. As compared with 1923 the value of the principal articles of local produce exported was as follows :—

	1923. £	1924. £	*Decrease.* £
Sugar	1,226,014	997,869	228,145
Molasses ...	594,557	524,927	69,630
Rum	1,010	1,370	—
Cotton... ...	39,255	36,113	3,142

The decrease in the value of the exports was due to a smaller sugar crop and a slight decrease in the price of sugar.

Only a small portion of the rum manufactured is exported, the greater portion being consumed locally.

Cotton exports totalled 431,152 lb. as compared with 432,061 lb. in the previous year.

8. Other articles locally produced or manufactured which are exported are :—

	£
Biscuits	3,352
Fruits and nuts	7,089
Building lime	5,450
Manjak	2,315
Fresh vegetables	5,351

9. The average prices prevailing for sugar, sugar products, and cotton for the last six years have been :—

	1919			1920			1921			1922			1923			1924		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sugar, per ton ..	28	10	0	63	15	0	22	10	0	16	5	0	25	10	0	24	10	0
Molasses, per gallon ..	0	1	10	0	3	1	0	1	5	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	1	7
Cotton, per lb. ..	0	4	0	0	1	5	0	1	10	0	1	10	0	1	10	0	2	1
Rum, per gallon ..	0	8	0	0	4	6	0	12	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	2	2

Transit.

10. The value of goods entered for transhipment was £193,655. The figures for the transit trade for the last three years are as follows :—

	£
1922	145,756
1923	230,048
1924	193,655

Bunkering Trade.

11. Ninety-seven steamers coaled during the year, taking 23,258 tons. The following figures show the falling off of this business since the termination of the war :—

	No. of steamers coaled.	*Coal supplied. Tons.*
1918	193	59,945
1919	343	90,658
1920	215	74,599
1921	97	34,308
1922	113	33,374
1923	111	29,628
1924	97	23,258

12. An oil bunkering station has been established by the British Union Oil Company but has not yet been put into operation.

Direction of Trade.

13. The following table shows the distribution of the import trade according to origin for the last five years :—

	1920 per cent.	1921 per cent.	1922 per cent.	1923 per cent.	1924 per cent
United Kingdom	30·3	35·9	31·6	32·9	33·0
Canada	18·5	22·5	22·1	24·1	22·4
Other parts of British Empire	12·3	12·7	16·1	16·6	15·1
United States of America ...	35·7	22·2	24·1	19·6	21·4
Other foreign countries ...	3·2	6·7	6·1	6·8	8·1

Imports from the United Kingdom for 1924 were valued at £840,617; from Canada 571,110; from other parts of British Empire £384,826; United States of America £544,659; foreign countries £206,085.

14. The principal articles imported from Canada and the United States, with the respective values, were :—

	Canada. £	*U.S.A.* £
Boots and shoes	4,162	1,492
Butter	4,235	6,274
Oilmeal (cattle food) ...	41,052	978
Coal	—	48,163
Cornmeal	579	29,236
Fish (salted)	36,544	3,170
Flour	117,626	41,134
Oats	41,149	11
Manures	33,016	—
Salt beef	784	37,812
Pork	29,993	38,214
Wood (various)	84,588	55,594

Destination of Exports.

15. This is shown below :—

To	1920 £	1921 £	1922 £	1923 £	1924 £
United Kingdom	1,055,346	105,687	149,058	427,677	205,921
Canada	1,266,134	653,332	655,649	1,280,543	1,182,971
Other parts of British Empire	300,165	137,183	106,886	121,593	83,297
United States of America ...	567,251	67,429	44,245	53,048	101,190
Other foreign countries ...	371,188	10,019	9,130	15,100	17,962
	£3,560,084	£973,650	£964,968	£1,897,961	£1,591,341

16. The sugar crop (including molasses) was distributed as follows :—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	157,825	2,182
Canada	796,633	459,486
Newfoundland	—	29,508
United States of America	—	25,367
Holland	15,500	—
Elsewhere	27,911	8,384
	£997,869	£524,927

17. The value of the exports of sugar was £228,145 less than that for 1923, and of molasses £69,630 less. The exports to the British Empire were less than those for the previous year, while those to foreign countries were £61,152 more than the previous year.

AGRICULTURE.

Sugar and Molasses.

18. According to the Customs returns for the year 1924, 35,671 tons of vacuum pan crystals, 5,668 tons of muscovado sugar, and 5,987,453 wine gallons of molasses, equal at 110 gallons per puncheon to 54,431 puncheons of molasses of all grades, were exported, of the total value of £1,522,796, made up as follows :—

				£
White Crystal Sugar	1	ton	valued at	30
Yellow ,, ,,	30·5	,,	,, ,,	763
Dark ,, ,,	35,640·25	..	,, ..	855,366
Muscovado ,,	5,668·4	,,	,, ,,	141,710
	41,340·15			997,869
Fancy Molasses	4,998,298	gals.	valued at	468,590
Choice ,,	818,365	,,	,, ,,	54,558
Vacuum Pan ,,	170,790	,,	,, ..	1,779
	5,987,453			£1,552,796

19. The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

	Tons.
1920	48,212
1921	36,005
1922	51,074
1923	62,711
1924	54,493

The decrease of 8,218 tons in the crop for 1924 as compared with the previous year was to a large extent caused by the low rainfall in 1923.

It is estimated that approximately 35,000 acres are under sugar cane annually.

Cotton.

20. The following table gives the comparison of cotton crops by the crop, that is, from the 1st October of one year to the 30th September of the next year :—

	Crop of 1922–23.	*Crop of* 1923–24.	*Decrease.*
Acres	2,767	2,687	80
			Increase.
Quantity (lint) lb.	397,711	409,767	12,056
Value	£36,107	£37,561	£1,454

The yield of cotton again showed signs of improvement, with a slightly smaller acreage planted the yield exceeded that of the previous year by 12,056 lb. of lint.

In 1924, 2,687 acres were planted in cotton.

SHIPPING.

21. The number of vessels entered was 1,259 with a net tonnage of 1,625,115, compared with 1,213 vessels and tonnage of 1,600,199 for the previous year. The increase was due to 25 more steam vessels and 21 sailing vessels having called at the port.

22. The number of seamen engaged at the port was 3,207, and 3,000 were discharged. The amount brought in as wages by seamen belonging to the Colony is estimated at £33,000.

23. For the purposes of their bunkering station the British Union Oil Company have laid a pipe-line in the harbour from their tanks at Needham's Point to a distance of 1,290 feet from the shore, and two mooring buoys with heavy moorings capable of holding the largest vessels have also been laid down. Up to the present, however, no ships have been supplied.

24. On the 2nd February, 1925, the Canadian Government S.S. "Canadian Navigator" was discharging her cargo, part of which was gasoline, in Carlisle Bay, when an explosion took place in one of her holds, which set the cargo on fire, and in a very short time, in spite of the assistance of the officers and men of certain ships of the North American and West Indies Squadron which happened to be in harbour at the time, the whole ship was in flames. The anchor cable was cut and the vessel was taken in tow by the Government water boat "Lord Combermere" with the intention of beaching her. After clearing the harbour, however, the towing rope broke, and as it was impossible to reconnect it the vessel had to be abandoned and it drifted to sea. She was kept under observation by one of the ships of the Squadron until she disappeared.

V.—Education.

1. The schools of the Island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of the elementary schools, almost entirely supported by Government grants, are not Government schools. They are supervised, however, by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons nominated by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspector of Schools and his assistants are nominated by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Central Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

2. There are three grades of schools recognised by the Board, viz., elementary schools, of which there were 134 in 1924, second grade schools, six in number, and three first grade schools, viz., Harrison College and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. Harrison and Queen's Colleges are situated in Bridgetown, and the Lodge School, a boarding school, in the Parish of St. John, about twelve miles from town. The elementary schools, in their turn, are annually classified as first, second or third-class schools, according to the efficiency of each school in work, tone, etc. There are also three "ragged schools" for very poor children.

3. The number of children on the school registers was 21,539, and the average attendance 13,565, figures which show a small increase on the previous year. It is sometimes said that a large number of the children of the Colony have no opportunity of education, but there is very little ground for this opinion. The number of children between 5 and 12 years of age, according to census results in 1921, was about 26,000, and the number returned as attending educational institutions was 25,533. Allowing for a certain proportion over 12, and perhaps a very few under 5, the number receiving no education cannot be large.

4. In respect to secondary education the Colony is well provided. There is, however, need for a second grade school for girls in St. Michael, and the Vestry of the Parish has purchased a site for a school in Bridgetown, and work on the erection of the school buildings has been commenced. Contributions towards the maintenance expenses of this school have been promised by the Government similar to those given to other second grade schools.

5. The expenditure on education was £41,739. Of this amount £1,130 is the cost of the Education Board and head office, £8,660 the grants to second grade schools, and £29,000 to the elementary schools, the remainder being required for incidental and miscellaneous expenses. Of the £29,000 for elementary schools £26,773 was applied to teachers' salaries. The fees collected in the elementary schools amounted to £1,715.

6. A system of trade apprenticeship bursaries has been started for the instruction of selected pupils as apprentices to master workmen. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade represented.

7. The average attendance at the six second grade schools during the year was 389. The attendance at the three first grade schools was 398. Both the first and second grade schools enter candidates for the Senior Cambridge Local Examination and School Certificate Examinations.

Industrial Schools

8. The Government maintains an industrial school in a country parish for juvenile offenders and vagrant youths and girls. During 1924 there was an average of 175 boys. The boys are trained principally in agricultural work and also in trades such as carpentry, tailoring, etc. There is also in connection with the school, at some distance away, an institution for girls with 35 inmates.

9. The girls are trained in domestic work, sewing, and such agricultural work as is customarily done by women in this Colony.

10. The school work at these institutions is reported to compare not unfavourably with the average standard in the elementary schools.

VI.—Social and Vital Statistics and Public Health.

1. The last census was taken in 1921, and showed a decrease of population since 1911 of 15,671. Some of the more important figures of this census, compared with that of 1911, are given below :—

	1911.	1921.
Total population	171,983	156,312
Number of whites	12,063	10,429
Number of blacks	118,387	111,677
Number of mixed	41,533	34,216
Number per square mile, St. Michael ...	3,825	3,623
„ „ „ whole Island ...	1,034	940
Percentage of females	59·2	59·7
Number of agricultural labourers ...	36,233	32,728
Attending educational institutions ...	34,244	25,533
Afflicted persons	1,200	1,124

2. The population on the 31st December, 1924, was estimated to be 159,499, but as this estimate depends on emigration and immigration figures, which experience has shown to be often

seriously inaccurate, not much reliance can be placed upon it. These figures show 11,609 departures from the Colony during the year and 12,427 arrivals.

3. The change in the immigration laws of the United States has put a stop to the rush of emigration to America. In 1923 over 1,700 persons emigrated to the States and the number was gradually increasing, as those who had settled there sent money to their relations and friends to enable them to join them. Under the new law the annual quota of emigrants allowed to the Colony by the American Government is about 60.

4. The birth-rate during the year was 32·91 per 1,000, and the death-rate 29·54. The percentage of illegitimate births was 68·24.

5. The following table gives results for the last five years :—

	Birth-rate.	*Illegitimate. Percentage.*	*Death-rate.*
1920 ...	37·07	67·66	32·90 per 1,000.
1921 ...	32·62	68·81	43·42 ,, ,,
1922 ...	34·33	66·97	22·41 ,, ,,
1923 ...	37·44	70·1	37·11 ,, ,,
1924 ...	32·91	68·24	29·54 ,, ,,

6. Up to the 31st December, 1924, no registration of the causes of death was available, but from the 1st January, 1925, a Registration of Deaths Act came into force, and in the future it will be possible to give information as to the principal causes of death.

7. The number of infant deaths per 1,000 births during the last five years has been :—

	Infant deaths.
1920	220 per 1,000 births.
1921	401 ,, ,, ,,
1922	187 ,, ,, ,,
1923	371 ,, ,, ,,
1924	298 ,, ,, ,,

PUBLIC HEALTH.

8. Barbados enjoys natural and climatic advantages from a health standpoint such as can scarcely be found in any other tropical place. Malaria is unknown, there are no extremes of heat or cold, the soil is well drained and the water supply very good; it is, moreover, constantly swept by the trade winds. In these circumstances it is an unusually healthy place of residence for all who are able to secure for themselves freedom from insanitary surroundings. Enteric fever and dysentery are, however, unfortunately common.

9. The number of cases of enteric notified during the last five years has been :—

1920	1,012
1921	3,070
1922	1,084
1923	735
1924	762

The ordinary type of enteric fever cases is of a mild character.

10. Proposals for a comprehensive review of the system of public health organisation have been placed before the Legislature by the Government at the suggestion of the Secretary of State. The question is one which is full of more than usual difficulty, owing to the density of population and existence of vested rights, but the high and fluctuating death-rate, combined with undue prevalence of enteric fever, indicates unmistakably that improved sanitary methods are an urgent need.

11. Apart from the conditions above referred to, the Island is exceptionally healthy and remarkably free from epidemic disease.

12. A Venereal Disease Clinic, established at the General Hospital in 1922, has been attended by steadily increasing numbers. Subsidiary clinics in other parts of the Island are much needed.

13. The treatment of inmates of the Leper Asylum with Ethyl Esters of Chaulmoogra oil has been continued with very hopeful results in a number of less advanced cases.

14. Four cases were discharged as cured during the year, and there are at the present time several cases waiting the holding of Medical Boards to decide whether they can be discharged. All cases that are discharged are required to show themselves to the Medical Officer of the Asylum every three months with a view to his ascertaining whether there has been any return of the trouble.

15. In June, 1924, a riot occurred in the Leper Asylum, when some of the inmates assaulted and beat the Superintendent, who had been recently appointed to improve the discipline of the Institution. The police had to intervene and the ringleaders were convicted and removed to the Government Gaol where they were specially segregated. The majority of the inmates sympathised with the Superintendent, and on his return to duty, with changes in his staff, he has had no trouble in enforcing discipline, and the Institution is now in a quiet and satisfactory condition.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

16. The following statement gives comparative figures for the last two years :—

	1923.	1924.
Total number of persons committed to prison	1,359	1,278
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	37	42
Daily average in prison (males) ...	188	197
Daily average in prison (females) ...	49	46
Police Court convictions	10,873	10,605
Police Court convictions for Prædial Larceny	729	732
Convictions by Superior Court ...	69	76
Convictions by Superior Court for Prædial Larceny	2	—

Conclusions should not be hastily drawn from variations in these statistics, which are affected by many factors. There has, however, been a continuous decline in convictions during the last four years. The boom of prosperity during 1920 was accompanied by high criminal records. During that year the average daily number in prison was 334 men and 82 women.

17. The cost of living showed no appreciable change as compared with 1923, as far as can be judged in the absence of accurately compiled statistical information. Food prices remained the same. As compared with pre-war conditions, it is generally assumed that the cost of living in Barbados has advanced by not less than 50 per cent.

VII.—Communications.

BY SEA.

1. The only subsidised line is the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, which gives a fortnightly service between Halifax and St. John (N.B.), Bermuda and the West Indies. The upward and downward ships meet at Barbados. The subsidy is paid by the Canadian Government. An arrangement entered into in the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement of 1920, for an improved service with a subsidy towards which the West Indies were to contribute, has not yet been put into effect, as it has not been found possible to provide a service of the type laid down at the subsidy prescribed. The seasonal character of the passenger traffic and northward cargoes is always a difficulty in dealing with West Indian steamship services. The central position of Barbados, however, secures for it frequent services in spite of the absence of subsidies.

2. From England the Harrison Line, Leyland Line, and Royal Dutch West India Line (fortnightly) are regular services. During the winter months vessels of the Elder and Fyffe Company also give a passenger and mail service, outward and homeward voyages also, during a limited period in spring and summer.

3. In addition to Royal Mail Steam Packet Canadian Service the Canadian Government Merchant Marine were also regular callers. They are only cargo boats.

4. To New York, the Quebec Steamship Company give a regular passenger service via the northern West Indian Islands, and the fine steamers of the Lamport and Holt Line call fortnightly on the voyage from Buenos Ayres via Brazilian ports to New York.

From New York via the northern West Indian Islands the Clyde Line of steamers call here once a month; they are cargo boats and carry only a limited number of passengers.

5. In addition to these regular callers other lines call periodically. In fact, except to Jamaica, communications from Barbados are good and frequent. During 1924, 400 steamers and 36 sailing ships brought mails, and 375 steamers and 67 sailing vessels took mails.

TELEGRAPH.

6. The Colony is now well served as regards telegraphic communication. During the year the cables of the Pacific Cable Board, West Indian System, commenced operations with a direct cable via Turks Island, cables to Trinidad and British Guiana, and wireless communication with the Windward and Leeward Islands.

7. The West India and Panama Company's contract terminated during the year, but the Company is continuing its service with all its old connections.

8. In addition the Colony has the services of the Western Union Cable Company via Miami, Florida, and the Western Cable Company via Brazil.

9. The Government wireless station has been closed, and the works have been sold to the Pacific Cable Board, who proposes to use them in case of any temporary trouble with their new station.

INTERNAL.

10. A small railway runs through the southern parishes and along the east coast. It was run as a private concern until 1916. When it was about to be shut down the Government took it over.

In June, 1924, an accident occurred to a bank holiday train, when one of the first-class carriages jumped the line and turned over. One passenger was killed and a few others were injured. This was the first serious accident for several years.

11. A motor-bus service now runs daily to all parts of the Colony, and it has to a certain extent affected the receipts of the railway.

12. A mule tramway service has served the Colony for many years, but it has recently met with serious competition from the motor-bus service, which has absorbed most of its passengers.

13. The roads of the Colony have suffered heavily in recent years through the great increase in motor traffic, and also in some parts of the Island from increased traffic due to the sugar factories, and it is now found impossible to maintain the roads on the funds which were sufficient in the past.

14. A Commission was appointed in 1924 to consider the best means of dealing with the road deterioration, and it has been recommended that the main arterial roads be reconstructed with a bituminous surface in place of the present water-bound macadam surface which is considered unsuitable for withstanding the wear and tear of motor traffic, and that the work of reconstruction be carried out by a Central Board in place of the several Parochial Boards which at present each control a portion of the roads. It is estimated that the cost of reconstructing the main roads, as recommended, would amount to £182,000, and that it would take from three to five years to complete the work. The recommendations are under consideration by the Legislature.

J. B. HOWELL,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Barbados.

25th September, 1925.

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BARBADOS.

REPORT FOR 1925-26.

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No. 1301.

BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1925-26.

I.—Geographical and Historical Note.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North, and longitude 59° 37′ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 940 to the square mile. Its size is, therefore, somewhat larger than the Isle of Wight. Although lying in the same degree of latitude as Madras or the Colony of the Gambia it enjoys a climate very different from either of these places.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese, and to have been named by them " Los Barbados " on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605, it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship " Olive Blossom " in the name of King James I.

4. A grant of the Island of Barbados was made by James I to the Earl of Marlborough, and an expedition for the colonization of the Island was fitted out under his protection by Sir William Courteen, a London merchant. One of the two ships comprising the expedition reached Barbados and some 30 settlers landed on the Leeward Coast and founded the town of Holetown in February, 1627 (New Style).

5. In the same year Charles I granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who compromised the Earl of Marlborough's claim by an annuity of £300.

6. In 1628, Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of pre-occupation against Lord Carlisle, and under this last grant the " Leeward " settlers at Holetown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's " Windward " settlers, who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died, leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby, on his arrival as Governor,

caused an Act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the Island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the Government when the Commonwealth was established.

9. Many Royalist families found refuge in Barbados as a result of the Civil War, and with the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights. In 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim and the heirs of Lord Carlisle. After the discharge of all the liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

10. In order to raise this money a 4½ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the Island. This was a constant source of grievance to the colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838. The position of the British West Indian planter was at that time very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian Islands.

11. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian Islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage. Next to the House of Commons and perhaps the House of Assembly in Bermuda, the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

12. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor. Members of the Assembly are elected annually.

13. The Colony is divided into eleven parishes, each having its affairs controlled by a Board, elected annually, and called the Vestry. The Vestries deal with the care of the poor and sick, sanitation, maintenance of roads as well as of Church and school buildings, in their districts, and are authorised to levy certain rates and taxes to meet their expenses independently of the Central Government.

14. Barbados is by its natural and climatic conditions the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by residents in neighbouring Colonies as a health resort. The

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anopheles mosquito (the carrier of malaria) is not found in the Island. This is a somewhat curious fact, since it is certain that it must be imported, not infrequently, in vessels which in many cases lie in the " Careenage " or inner harbour for considerable periods, on arrival from places where it is prevalent. The conditions, however, are evidently unfavourable to its breeding ashore.

15. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November, the shade temperature then ranging usually between 80° and 85° F. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and between November and May the night temperatnre sometimes falls as low as 64° F. For the greater part of the year the temperature is delightfully equable and the heat is seldom oppressive. Few places, indeed, enjoy a more pleasant climate. The winter months are regarded as the " Tourist Season."

16. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks are unknown.

II—General Observations.

1. The year 1925–26 was a fair one so far as concerns agricultural produce. Weather conditions in the previous year had on the whole been favourable and the crop returns were larger than those for the two previous years. The fall, however, in the price at which sugar was sold during this and the preceding year had a material effect on the general prosperity of the Colony, which is almost entirely dependent on the success of its sugar crop.

2. The Revenue of the Colony in 1925–26 was less than that for the previous year by £100,000, the principal reduction being due to the Income Tax, which yielded £83,000 less than in 1924–25. This was due to the fact that the rates of the tax imposed in 1924–25 were reduced by one half in 1925–26. There was also a reduction in the Customs receipts of £20,000.

3. The balance in the Treasury at the 31st March, 1926, was £146,535, not including the sum of £100,000 placed to a Reserve Fund in 1924–25. This is an increase over the Treasury balance at the 31st March, 1925, of £9,883.

4. The value of the imports for the year 1925 was less than that for 1924 by £262,520. This reduction can be traced to smaller quantities of animal foods (bran, pollard, oilmeal, etc.,) and of flour, meal, and salted meats having been imported during

the year, and is due either to the stocks in those items having been allowed to run low during the year, or to the market being overstocked at the end of the previous year.

5. The principal exports of the Colony are sugar and molasses, and though the quantities of these items exported during 1925 were greater than those for 1924, the fall in the price paid for them reduced their value as compared with the similar exports for 1924 by £440,000.

6. The sugar crop of 1925 was the largest reaped since 1919. Good rains from the middle of June until November received great response, particularly from the black soil areas of the Island which had given only moderate or poor crops during the four or five preceding years. The seedling cane variety Ba.11569, which made an excellent recovery and very rapid growth, was largely responsible for the increase in the size of the crop.

The average price for dark crystal sugar was $3·08 per 100 lb.

7. The average rainfall for the Colony for 1924 was 47·48 inches, which was 13·58 inches or 22·3 per cent. below the average for the sixty years ended 31st December, 1924, which was 61·06 inches.

8. A new Department of Science and Agriculture was brought into operation during the year. The old Departments of Agriculture and Chemistry and Agricultural Science, formerly separate Departments, have been combined and placed under one head. The salaries of all the Officers of the combined Departments are increased, and additional Scientific Officers have been added. The funds at the disposal of the Department have also been increased, and special provision has been made for extending the experiments with sugar-cane seedlings. Appointments are under the control of the Governor, but a Board of Agriculture has been provided for by the new Act to whom all matters in connection with the Department are submitted which in turn submits them if approved to the Governor in Executive Committee.

9. The lighthouse at Harrison's Point in the north of the Island was completed by the end of the year, and was opened on the 1st April, 1926. The Island is now well supplied with lighthouses. One on the north-west, one on the East Point, one on the South Point, and one at Needham's Point on the southern end of Carlisle Bay.

The water supply of the Island is being improved by the erection of an efficient pumping station at the Belle Estate, which should enable the Water Department in the future to supply all demands for agricultural and other purposes. There has been some difficulty in meeting the demands during the dry weather in the crop seasons of the past few years.

An offer was received during the year for the removal of the wreck "Guarany," which blocks the best part of the anchorage in Carlisle Bay. There was some delay in preparing the terms of a contract for the work, which has, however, since been completed, and the contractors, Messrs. Lindsay, Swan, Hunter, of Jamaica, have, at the time this report is being written, actually started operations. The time allowed for the completion of the work is seven months.

10. The condition of the roads of the Colony has steadily deteriorated. Further reference to them is made under VII—Communications.

11. As a result of the new Pension Act which came into force in January, 1925, and which requires the compulsory retirement of all officials on reaching the age of 65, the head of nearly every Department of the Service has been changed during the year. A large number of the Clergy were also required to retire, and a difficulty is being experienced in filling some of the vacancies.

Among the principal matters of legislation during the year may be mentioned :—

The Department of Science and Agriculture Act, which provides for the new Department elsewhere referred to.

The Master in Chancery (Abolition) Act, and the Registration Office (Amendment) Act, by which the Office of Master in Chancery as a separate Department is abolished, and the duties of Master in Chancery are placed on the Registrar of the Colony.

The Teachers' Pension Act, affecting teachers of all grades. The provisions are on the same lines as the Civil Service Pension Act, and require ten years' qualifying service, either in this Colony or elsewhere, under the Crown.

The Wireless Telegraphy Act, providing for the importation and control of wireless telegraph sets, etc., also for the control of wireless on foreign warships or aircraft in the territorial waters of the Colony.

12. On the 29th December, 1925, a Delegation of the Empire Parliamentary Association arrived in the Colony on their visit to the West Indies and British Guiana. They only remained in the Colony one day, and proceeded on their way to Trinidad the same night, but they also paid the Colony a second visit on their way to the Northern Islands from the 25th to the 27th January, 1926. On both occasions they were entertained and shown as much of the Colony as was possible during their short visits, and they had opportunities of discussing matters of interest to the Colony.

13. At the instigation of the Canadian Government a conference was held during the year at Ottawa, Canada, between the Dominion Government and the British West Indian and

other Colonies dealing with Tariff Preferences and Steamship Services. Barbados was represented by two delegates at the Conference, who signed an Agreement on behalf of the Colony.

This Agreement can only come into operation after its ratification by the Legislatures of the various parties to it, and on a date to be agreed on and to be proclaimed. It provides in the case of Barbados for an increase in the preference on sugar imports into Canada in return for tariff concessions on local imports of Canadian products; also for the establishment of an improved subsidised steamship service between Canada and the Colonies, to which Barbados has agreed to contribute at the rate of £5,000 per annum.

Up to the present the Agreement has not been brought into operation.

14. An old institution in the Colony, the Mule Tramway Company ceased operations during the year. The motor-bus services, which run on all the tram routes as well as to all other parts of the Island, gradually reduced the number of its passengers until it was no longer able to pay its way, and it closed its service from the 1st September, 1925. It had done good service in the past before quicker means of transport were available.

15. The British Union Oil Company obtained oil from some of its old wells at Turners Hall during the year, but no new developments were undertaken. The Company has allowed its bunkering station, which was completed in 1925, to remain unoperated. Its concession for the station is liable to cancellation should it fail to carry out its obligations to supply oil to the shipping, and the position is receiving the serious consideration of the Government.

16. Codrington College, founded by General Christopher Codrington who died in 1710, is situated on the east coast in the parish of St. John. The College buildings were completed in 1743, and a Grammar School opened in 1745. In 1780, and again in 1831, the buildings were almost entirely destroyed by hurricanes. In 1829, it was opened as a College granting its own degrees. In 1875, by the efforts of Bishop Mitchinson, it was affiliated to the University of Durham, and from that date to the present day students of Codrington College are admissible to all Degrees, Licenses and Academical ranks in the several Faculties of that University.

The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from fifteen to twenty. The Government provides two scholarships annually of the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years.

Quite recently the entire College, with the exception of the Principal's Lodge, has been destroyed by fire. Efforts are being made to raise subscriptions to assist in restoring the buildings.

17. The increase in the interest in political matters is shown by the increase in the number of voters registered during the past four years, as follows :—

1922	2,445
1923	3,252
1924	3,385
1925	3,718

III.—Financial.

(1) REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The gross Revenue and Expenditure of the Colony for the last five years have been as follows :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1921–22	340,814	409,055
1922–23	519,213	402,524
1923–24	444,646	420,461
1924–25	504,696	364,530
1925–26	404,132	394,249

These amounts include receipts and payments on account of loans. Excluding special receipts and payments, the ordinary revenue for 1925–26 was £390,774 as compared with £502,046 in the previous year, and the ordinary expenditure was £380,891 as against £361,880 in 1924–25.

At the 31st March, 1925, the balance in the Treasury was £236,652, and at the 31st March, 1926, this had been increased to £246,535. £100,000 of this balance has been placed to a special Reserve Fund, which can only be drawn on for emergencies. The available surplus is therefore £146,535.

Revenue.

2. There was a decrease in the revenue received as compared with the previous year of £100,564, which is mainly accounted for by the Income Tax; the amount collected by this tax in 1925 was £37,921 as compared with £121,314 in 1924. The revenue received from Customs and Excise was £22,712 less than that received for the previous year.

The Income Tax is assessed on incomes received during the previous year. The tax collected in 1925 was on incomes received during 1924, while the tax collected in 1924 was on incomes received in 1923. 1923 was the most prosperous of recent years, and through an error in under-estimating certain incomes which could not be fully ascertained until after the rates had been fixed, a much larger tax was collected in 1924 than had been intended. The rates fixed for the tax to be collected in 1925 were reduced by half as compared with those for 1924, and varied on a graduated scale between 1d. in the £ for incomes of £200, to 1s. 9d. for incomes exceeding £10,000.

3. In addition to the Revenue raised by the Government the sum of £128,535 was raised by the various Parochial Boards for upkeep of their Institutions and for Poor Relief. Of this amount £20,210 was for maintenance of roads.

Expenditure.

4. The ordinary expenditure for 1925, excluding expenditure under loan funds, was £380,891, an increase of £19,011 over similar expenditure for the previous year. The total expenditure for the year showed an increase of £29,719 over that for the previous year.

5. The principal increases in ordinary expenditure were under the heads :—

(1) Police. Increase in pay to the Force authorised by the Police (Amendment) Act, 1924.

(2) Medical Departments. Increase in grant to the General Hospital.

(3) Water Works Department. Pumping expenses.

(4) Pensions. Increases due to resignations under the Pension Act, 1925.

(5) Railway. Repairs to permanent way.

(6) Department of Science and Agriculture. Extra expenses of the newly-established Department.

6. The heads of expenditure showing the heaviest outlay are given below compared with the figures for the previous year :—

	1925–26.	1924–25.
	£	£
Police	42,134	38,915
Education	41,596	41,174
Medical Services	40,702	34,493
Water Works	51,404	48,493
Debt Charges	14,930	16,364

Education is aided but not entirely supported by the Government, though practically the whole of the teachers' salaries in aided schools is borne from public funds. Medical Services include the hospital, lunatic asylum and leper asylum and quarantine services.

The expenditure under Water Works includes interest and sinking fund payments on the loan raised for purchasing and extending the system. Water is supplied from standpipes distributed all over the Island, and is thus obtained free by the bulk of the population.

(2) PUBLIC DEBT.

7. The public debt at the close of 1925 was £591,000. There was no increase during the year. The value of the sinking funds in connection with the above was £267,206 as compared with £247,636 in 1924.

(3) BANKS.

8. *Government Savings Bank.*—The total sum to the credit of depositors on the 31st December, 1925, was £643,013, and the value of the invested funds was £774,244. The number of depositors was 11,612. The corresponding figures for 1924 were : deposits £683,604; value of invested funds £766,287; number of depositors 11,894.

9. *Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.*—The Bank has completely recovered from the difficult position in which it was placed by the slump in sugar values in 1920–21. At the close of the accounting year 1921 the loans and interest outstanding amounted to £462,107, and of that amount at the close of the accounting year 1926 only £32,829 remained unpaid, and that amount is secured as a first lien against the land of the several plantations by which it is due.

10. The business done by the Bank during the year 1925–26 exceeded that of the two previous years, the loans made being £170,890 by 113 borrowers as compared with £148,075 by 99 borrowers in 1924–25 and £115,065 in 1923–24. The profits of the Bank for 1925–26 amounted to £5,962 as compared with £5,073 for the previous year.

11. The Bank was established in 1906 with a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Government towards the assistance of the sugar industry of the Colony, which was in a very precarious condition at the time. This capital has been increased by the Bank to the sum of £171,922 at the 31st May, 1926.

IV.—Trade, Agriculture and Industry.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

1. The total value of imports and exports for the last five years has been :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1921	2,642,273	1,467,903
1922	2,480,320	1,259,794
1923	2,521,882	2,189,740
1924	2,556,297	1,858,301
1925	2,293,777	1,421,035

The figures relating to trade are for the calendar year 1925.

The excess of imports over exports is a regular feature of the returns. Returns from the shipping trade, and remittances on account of investments held abroad, as well as remittances from Barbadians who have emigrated and assist their relatives remaining in the Island, help to make up a balance.

Imports.

2. The imports for 1925 were less than those for the previous year by £262,520.

3. The principal decreases were in the following items :—

	Value.	*Decrease.*
	£	£
Animal foods (bran, pollard, oilmeal, etc.)	48,192	107,366
Butter, and butter substitutes	36,628	10,550
Cocoa–prepared (except sweetmeats) ...	6,997	12,222
Flour and meal ...	153,746	57,901
Meats (salted and canned)	86,851	46,509
Tobacco — cigarettes (manufactured) ...	9,425	12,377
Wood and timber (unmanufactured hemlock, beech, birch, etc.)	30,948	23,988

4. There were increases in the following items :—

	Value.	*Increase.*
	£	£
Bricks and tiles ...	30,467	25,257
Cement	30,634	21,754
Cotton goods	213,501	4,000
Fish (pickled, etc.) ...	128,345	14,611

5. The total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	832,184
Raw materials	342,287
Manufactured articles	1,043,476
Miscellaneous	75,830
	2,293,777
Specie	2,582
	£2,296,359

Exports.

6. £1,144,394 of the value of total exports was represented by local produce, the balance, £276,641, by re-exports, including coal for shipping.

7. As compared with 1923 and 1924 the value of the principal articles of local produce exported in 1925 was as follows :—

	1923.	1924.	1925.
	£	£	£
Sugar	1,226,014	997,869	686,238
Molasses ...	594,557	524,927	395,910
Rum	1,010	1,370	1,329
Cotton... ...	39,255	36,113	22,998

8. The decrease in the value of the exports in 1924 as compared with 1923 was due to smaller crops in 1924. The decrease in 1925 as compared with the previous years was due to the fall in the price received for sugar. The quantity of sugar shipped in 1925 was 6,120 tons more than in 1924, and the quantity of molasses 1,881,822 gallons more than in 1924.

9. Only a small portion of the rum manufactured is exported, the greater portion being consumed locally.

10. Cotton exports totalled 235,911 lb. as compared with 431,152 lb. in the previous year.

11. The value of other articles locally produced or manufactured which are exported are :—

	£
Bay Rum	949
Biscuits	6,525
Cotton-seed meal	3,050
Fruits and nuts	7,227
Hides and skins	2,853
Lime, building	5,959
Manjak	1,011
Oils, edible	2,526
Vegetables, fresh	6,379

12. The average prices prevailing for sugar, sugar products, and cotton for the last seven years have been :—

	1919.			1920.			1921.			1922.			1923.			1924.			1925.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sugar, per ton ..	28	10	0	63	15	0	22	10	0	16	5	0	25	10	0	24	10	0	14	10	0
Molasses, per gallon ..	0	1	10	0	3	1	0	1	5	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	1	7	0	1	0
Cotton, per lb. ..	0	4	0	0	1	5	0	1	10	0	1	10	0	1	10	0	2	1	0	2	0
Rum, per gallon ..	0	8	0	0	4	6	0	12	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	2	1

Transit.

13. The value of goods entered for transhipment was £225,023. The figures for the transit trade for the last three years are as follows :—

	£
1923	230,048
1924	193,655
1925	225,023

Bunkering Trade.

14. One hundred and twenty one steamers coaled during the year, taking 30,895 tons. The following figures show the falling off of this business since 1920 :—

	No. of steamers coaled.	*Coal supplied. Tons.*
1920	215	74,599
1921	97	34,308
1922	113	33,374
1923	111	29,628
1924	97	23,258
1925	121	30,895

An oil bunkering station has been established by the British Union Oil Company but has not yet been put into operation.

Direction of Trade.

15. The following table shows the distribution of the import trade according to origin for the last five years :—

	1921.	**1922.**	**1923.**	**1924.**	**1925.**
	per cent.	**per cent.**	**per cent.**	**per cent.**	**per cent.**
United Kingdom	**35·9**	**31·6**	**32·9**	**33·0**	**36·3**
Canada	**22·5**	**22·1**	**24·1**	**22·4**	**20·9**
Other parts of British Empire	**12·7**	**16·1**	**16·6**	**15·1**	**15·2**
United States of America ...	**22·2**	**24·1**	**19·6**	**21·4**	**18·7**
Other foreign countries ...	**6·7**	**6·1**	**6·8**	**8·1**	**8·9**

Imports from the United Kingdom for 1925 were valued at £834,681; from Canada £479,979; from other parts of British Empire £347,849; United States of America £427,438; other foreign countries £203,830.

16. The principal articles imported from Canada and the United States, with the respective values, were :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	5,935	2,050
Butter	4,030	3,434
Oilmeal (cattle food) ...	33,456	1,026
Coal	—	47,838
Cornmeal	403	33,583
Fish (salted)	63,859	2,522
Flour	68,522	23,871
Oats	63,213	—
Manures	31,271	—
Salt beef	417	27,494
Pork	20,052	15,846
Wood (various)	64,502	48,103

Destination of Exports.

17. This is shown below for the past six years :—

	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
To United Kingdom	1,055,346	105,687	149,058	427,677	205,921	204,970
Canada	1,266,134	653,332	655,649	1,280,543	1,182,971	767,619
Other parts of British Empire ..	300,165	137,183	106,886	121,593	83,297	97,001
United States of America	567,251	67,429	44,245	53,048	101,190	54,909
Other foreign countries	371,188	10,019	9,130	15,100	17,962	19,895
	£3,560,084	£973,650	£964,968	£1,897,961	£1,591,341	£1,144,394

18. The sugar crop (including molasses) was distributed as follows :—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom ...	174,678	1,647
Canada	482,672	284,928
Newfoundland ...	73	51,613
United States of America	15	52,918
Holland	10,941	804
Elsewhere	17,859	4,000
	£686,238	£395,910

The value of the exports of sugar was £311,631 less than that for 1924, and of molasses £129,017 less.

AGRICULTURE.

Sugar and Molasses.

19. According to the Customs returns for the year 1925, 43,571 tons of vacuum pan crystals, 3,889 tons of muscovado sugar and 7,869,275 wine gallons of molasses equal, at 110 gallons per puncheon, to 71,539 puncheons of molasses of all grades, were exported of the total value of £1,082,147 made up as follows :—

Sugar.	*Tons.*	*Value.*	
		£	
Yellow Crystal ...	10	150	
Dark Crystal ...	43,561·50	631,641	
Muscovado ...	3,889·10	54,446	£686,237
	47,460·60		

Molasses.	*Gallons.*	*Value.* £	
Fancy ...	6,880,789	358,373	
Choice ...	761,822	34,916	
Vacuum Pan ...	208,355	1,736	
Barbados ...	7,188	329	
Special ...	11,121	556	£395,910
	7,869,275		£1,082,147

20. The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

	Tons.
1921	36,005
1922	51,074
1923	62,711
1924	54,493
1925	65,567

The increase of 11,074 tons in the crop of 1925 as compared with the previous year was mainly due to a better general rainfall throughout the Island in 1924 than in 1923; the crop reaped in 1925 having been grown during 1924.

It is estimated that approximately 35,000 acres are under sugar-cane annually.

Cotton.

21. The following table gives the comparison of cotton crops by the crop, that is, from the 1st October of one year to the 30th September of the next year :—

	Crop of 1923–24.	*Crop of* 1924–25.	*Decrease.*
Acres	2,687	2,301	386
Quantity (lint) lb.	409,767	224,126	185,641
Value	£37,561	£23,251	£14,310

The large decrease in the yield of cotton was due to the increased amount of pink bollworm in the Island and to the severe drought in the early part of 1925.

SHIPPING.

22. The number of vessels entered was 1,140 with a net tonnage of 1,634,677, compared with 1,259 vessels and tonnage 1,625,115 for the previous year. Seven ships of war and two yachts also visited the Port during the year.

23. The number of seamen engaged at the Port was 3,325, and 3,208 were discharged. The amount brought in as wages by seamen belonging to the Colony is estimated at £21,000.

24. The British Union Oil Company has taken no further action to bring its bunkering station into operation and has had to refuse applications from ships desirous of obtaining oil.

V.—Education.

1. The schools of the Island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, almost entirely supported by Government grants, are not Government schools. They are supervised, however, by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons nominated by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspector of Schools and his assistants are nominated by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Central Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

2. There are three grades of schools recognised by the Board, viz., elementary schools, of which there were 133 in 1925, second-grade schools, six in number, and three first-grade schools, viz., Harrison College and the Lodge School for Boys, and Queen's College for Girls. Harrison and Queen's Colleges are situated in Bridgetown, and the Lodge School, a boarding school, in the Parish of St. John, about twelve miles from town. The elementary schools, in their turn, are annually classified as first, second or third-class schools, according to the efficiency of each school in work, tone, etc. There are also three " ragged schools " for very poor children.

3. The number of children on the school registers in 1925 was 22,180, and the average attendance 14,220. This was a slight increase on the two previous years.

4. The need for a second-grade school for girls in the parish of St. Michael has been recognised, and £10,000 was voted by the Vestry of St. Michael for this purpose, and the school is in course of erection. The Legislature has not contributed towards the cost of erecting the school, but it is recognised that assistance towards the maintenance expenses will be contributed on the same scale as has been given to the other second-grade schools.

5. Codrington College is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licenses, and Academical ranks in the several Faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from fifteen to twenty. The Government provides two scholarships annually of the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. The College has recently been destroyed by fire, but provision has been made for carrying on its courses until it is restored.

6. The grant for education in 1925 was £44,000. Of this amount £1,130 is the cost of the Education Board and Head Office: £8,660 the grants to first and second-grade schools:

£1,035 grants for University Education (scholarships at English Universities and at Codrington College), and £32,000 grants to the elementary schools, the remainder being spent on incidental and miscellaneous expenses. £27,326 of the £32,000 for elementary schools was applied to teachers' salaries. The fees collected from pupils in the elementary schools amounted to £1,800.

7. The average attendance at the six second-grade schools during the year was 395. The attendance at the three first-grade schools was 407. Both second and first-grade schools enter candidates for the Cambridge Local Examinations, and the Certificate Examination of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board.

8. A system of trade apprenticeship bursaries was started in 1924 for the instruction of selected pupils as apprentices to master workmen. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade represented. Eleven apprentices have completed their first year's course.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

9. The Government maintains an Industrial School in a country parish for juvenile offenders and vagrant youths, and girls. During 1925 there was an average of 128 boys. The boys are trained principally in agricultural work and also in trades such as carpentry, tailoring, etc. There is also in connection with the school, at some distance away, an institution for girls with 33 inmates. The girls are trained in domestic work, sewing, and such agricultural work as is customarily done by women in this Colony.

VI.—Social and Vital Statistics and Public Health.

1. The last census was taken in 1921, and showed a decrease of population since 1911 of 15,671. Some of the more important figures of this census, compared with that of 1911, are given below :—

	1911.	1921.
Total population	**171,983**	**156,312**
Number of whites	**12,063**	**10,429**
Number of blacks	**118,387**	**111,677**
Number of mixed	**41,533**	**34,216**
Number per square mile, St. Michael ...	**3,825**	**3,623**
„ „ „ whole Island ...	**1,034**	**940**
Percentage of females	**59·2**	**59·7**
Number of agricultural labourers ...	**36,233**	**32,728**
Attending educational institutions ...	**34,244**	**25,533**
Afflicted persons	**1,200**	**1,124**

2. The population on the 31st December 1925, was estimated to be 162,211, but as this estimate depends on emigration and immigration figures, which experience has shown to be often

seriously inaccurate, not much reliance can be placed upon it. These figures show 15,514 departures from the Colony during the year and 12,621 arrivals.

3. The change in the immigration laws of the United States has put a stop to the rush of emigration to America. In 1923 over 1,700 persons emigrated to the States and the number was gradually increasing, as those who had settled there sent money to their relations and friends to enable them to join them. Under the new law the annual quota of emigrants allowed to the Colony by the American Government is about 60.

4. The birth-rate during the year was 34·85 per 1,000, and the death-rate 29·46. The percentage of illegitimate births was 70·92.

5. The following table gives results for the last five years :—

	Birth-rate.	*Illegitimate. Percentage.*	*Death-rate.*
1921	32·62	68·81	43·42 per 1,000
1922	34·33	66·97	22·41 ,, ,,
1923	37·44	70·1	37·11 ,, ,,
1924	32·91	68·24	29·54 ,, ,,
1925	34·85	70·92	29·46 ,, ,,

6. On the 1st January, 1925, a Registration of Deaths Act came into force. There was no registration prior to that date.

7. The following table shows the principal causes of deaths during 1925 :—

Causes.	***Actual number of deaths.***	***Rate per 1,000 of total mortality.***	***Rate per 1,000 of estimated population.***
Fevers :—			
Enteric	84	18	0·5
Malaria	—	—	—
Other (except puerperal)	—	—	—
Bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhoea and enteritis[*]	1,123	235	7·0
Pneumonia and bronchitis[†]	244	47	1·4
Kidney diseases	197	39	1·2
Phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis	208	44	1·3
Diseases peculiar to early infancy	520	110	3·7
Old age	153	32	1·0
Diseases of the heart	380	80	2·4
Syphilis[‡]	473	93	2·7
Diseases of the nervous system	335	74	2·2

[*] 82 per cent. of this were of children under three years old.
[†] 84 per cent. do. do. do.
[‡] 62 per cent. do. do. do.

8. The "Age Groups" in which the greatest number of deaths occurred during the last three years are shown in the following table as well as the "Rate per 1,000 deaths" for which each group was responsible.

	1925.		1924.		1923.	
	Age Group.	*Rate.*	*Age Group.*	*Rate.*	*Age Group.*	*Rate.*
1st Highest ..	Under 1	369	Under 1	320	Under 1	370
2nd Highest ..	1 to 3	108	1 to 3	140	1 to 3	156
3rd Highest ..	70 to 80	98	60 to 70	95	60 to 70	84
4th Highest ..	60 to 70	90	70 to 80	91	70 to 80	84
5th Highest ..	50 to 60	66	50 to 60	71	50 to 60	61

9. The number of infant deaths per 1,0[illegible] births during the last five years has been :—

	Infant deaths.
1921	401 per 1,000 births.
1922	187 ,, ,, ,,
1923	371 ,, ,, ,,
1924	298 ,, ,, ,,
1925	312 ,, ,, ,,

PUBLIC HEALTH.

10. Barbados enjoys natural and climatic advantages from a health standpoint such as can scarcely be found in any other tropical place. Malaria is unknown, there are no extremes of heat or cold, the soil is well drained and the water supply very good; it is, moreover, constantly swept by the trade winds. In these circumstances it is an unusually healthy place of residence for all who are able to secure for themselves freedom from insanitary surroundings. Enteric fever and dysentery are, however, unfortunately common.

11. The number of cases of enteric notified during the last five years has been :—

1921	3,070
1922	1,084
1923	735
1924	762
1925	432

The ordinary type of enteric fever cases is of a mild character.

12. At the suggestion of the Secretary of State proposals were submitted to the Legislature during the year for a review of the system of public health organisation in the Colony and in November, 1925, a Commission was appointed to consider existing conditions and to make recommendations for improving them.

At the time this Report is being written the Commission is still at work.

13. A Venereal Disease Clinic was established in 1922 at the General Hospital, and it has been attended by steadily increasing numbers. The number of cases treated in 1925 was 4,317 as compared with 3,085 in 1924. Clinics in other parts of the Island are much needed.

14. The treatment of lepers at the Asylum by the injection of Moogrol, etc., which was commenced in 1921, was continued during the year, and fifteen inmates who had been medically boarded and declared to be cured were discharged from the Asylum.

In view of the recommendations of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association for dealing with cases of leprosy, and as a result of a recent visit to the Colony of Mr. Frank Oldrieve, Secretary to the Association, a complete change in the outlook with regard to this problem and its treatment has taken place, and it is hoped that sufferers will be induced to come forward for treatment in their earlier stages, when they are more amenable to treatment. A branch of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association is being formed locally to consider and assist in carrying out the suggestions which have been put forward for improving the system of dealing with cases.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

15. The following statement gives comparative figures for the last three years :—

	1923.	1924.	1925.
Total number of persons committed to prison	1,359	1,278	1,208
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	37	42	33
Daily average in prison (males)	188	197	172
Daily average in prison (females)	49	46	39
Police Court convictions ...	10,873	10,605	10,856
Police Court convictions for Praedial Larceny	729	732	586
Convictions by Superior Court	69	76	62
Convictions by Superior Court for Praedial Larceny ...	2	—	—

There is again a decline in convictions, which are now, in all probability, approaching normality after the high numbers during and just subsequent to the War.

The daily average number of males in prison is still higher, however, than in the years 1907 to 1913, the lowest being 121 in the year 1911, while those for females are the lowest recorded during the past 30 years.

Fluctuations in these statistics are often difficult to account for and often opposite to expectations, but the low price of our staple product, sugar, continued drought and reduced opportunities of emigration do not seem to point to a further decrease in the near future.

VII.—Communications.

By Sea.

1. The only subsidised line was that of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, which gave a fortnightly service between Halifax and St. John (N.B.), Bermuda and the West Indies, the upward and downward ships meeting at Barbados. The subsidy was paid by the Canadian Government. The arrangements entered into in the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreements of 1920 and 1925 for an improved service, with a subsidy towards which the West Indies were to contribute, have not yet been put into effect, as it has not been found possible to provide a service of the type laid down at the subsidy prescribed. The seasonal character of the passenger traffic and northward cargoes is always a difficulty in dealing with West Indian steamship services. The central position of Barbados, however, secures for it frequent services in spite of the absence of subsidies.

2. From England, the Harrison Line, Leyland Line, and Royal Dutch West India Line (fortnightly) are regular services. During the winter months vessels of the Elder and Fyffe Company also give a passenger and mail service, outward and homeward voyages also, during a limited period in spring and summer.

3. In addition to Royal Mail Steam Packet Canadian Service the Canadian Government Merchant Marine and the Canadian Pacific Railway Line were also regular callers. They are only cargo boats. The latter line was, however, withdrawn in the month of December, 1925.

4. To New York, the Quebec Steamship Company gives a regular passenger service via the northern West Indian Islands, and the fine steamers of the Lamport and Holt Line call fortnightly on the voyage from Buenos Ayres via Brazilian ports to New York.

From New York via the northern West Indian Islands the Furness Withy and Clyde Lines of steamers call. They are cargo boats and carry only a limited number of passengers.

5. In addition to these regular callers other lines call periodically. In fact, except to Jamaica, communications from Barbados are good and frequent. During 1925, 396 steamers and 29 sailing ships brought mails, and 364 steamers and 51 sailing vessels took mails.

TELEGRAPH.

6. The Colony is now well served as regards telegraphic communication. During the year 1924, the cables of the Pacific Cable Board, West Indian system, commenced operations with a direct cable via Turks Island, cables to Trinidad and British Guiana, and wireless communication with the Windward and Leeward Islands.

7. The West India and Panama Company's contract terminated during the year 1924, but the Company is continuing its service with all its old connections.

8. In addition, the Colony has the services of the Western Union Cable Company via Miami, Florida, and the Western Cable Company via Brazil.

9. The Government wireless station has been closed.

INTERNAL.

10. A small railway runs through the southern parishes and along the east coast. It was run as a private concern until 1916. When it was about to be shut down the Government took it over.

11. A mule tramway service which had served the Colony for many years met with such serious competition from motor-bus services that it closed its service in September, 1925, and its lines are being taken up.

12. Motor-bus services are now well established and run continuously throughout the day to all parts of the town and its suburbs. Buses also run morning and evening to all parts of the Island, which is now well served as far as traffic facilities are concerned.

13. The roads of the Colony have suffered heavily from the motor traffic generally, and especially in town from the motor-buses. The old methods of repairing the roads, which were sufficient for animal drawn traffic, are unable to stand the wearing of motor traffic, and the funds which have hitherto been sufficient are incapable of meeting the cost of maintenance.

14. A Commission was appointed in 1924 to consider the best means of dealing with the road deterioration, and it recommended that the main arterial roads should be reconstructed with a bituminous surface in place of the present water-bound macadam surface which is considered unsuitable for withstanding the wear and tear of motor traffic, and that the work of reconstruction should be carried out by a Central Board in place of the several Parochial Boards which at present each control a portion of the roads. It was estimated that the cost of reconstructing the main roads, as recommended, would amount to £182,000, and that it would take from three to five years to complete the work.

15. Legislation has been passed authorising the appointment of a Central Board to deal with the reconstruction of the main roads, and it is proposed in the first instance to deal with the main roads radiating from the centre of the town to a distance of three to four miles on each road. This work will, it is hoped, be commenced in 1926.

J. B. HOWELL,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

2*nd July*, 1926.

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BARBADOS.

Report for 1926–27.

(For Reports for 1924–25 and 1925–26 see Nos. 1274 and 1301, respectively (Price 9d. each).)

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BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1926-27.

I.—Geographical and Historical Note.

1. Barbados is the most easterly of the West Indian Islands. It is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. It is about 21 miles long by 14 wide, and contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population of over 940 to the square mile. Its size is, therefore, somewhat larger than the Isle of Wight. Although lying in the same degree of latitude as Madras or the Colony of the Gambia, it enjoys a climate very different from either of these places.

2. Barbados is said to have been first visited by the Portuguese and to have been named by them " Los Barbados " on account of the bearded fig trees they found there.

3. In 1605, it was nominally taken possession of by the English ship " Olive Blossom " in the name of King James I.

4. A grant of the Island of Barbados was made by James I to the Earl of Marlborough, and an expedition for the colonisation of the Island was fitted out under his protection by Sir William Courteen, a London merchant. One of the two ships comprising the expedition reached Barbados and some 30 settlers landed on the Leeward Coast and founded the town of Holetown in February, 1627 (New Style).

5. In the same year Charles I granted all the Caribbee Islands to the Earl of Carlisle, who compromised the Earl of Marlborough's claim by an annuity of £300.

6. In 1628, Charles granted Barbados to the Earl of Pembroke under the impression that it was not one of the Caribbee Islands.

7. Lord Pembroke supported Courteen's right of pre-occupation against Lord Carlisle, and under this last grant the " Leeward " settlers at Holetown continued to hold possession until 1629, when they were finally overpowered by Lord Carlisle's " Windward " settlers, who had landed in Carlisle Bay and founded Bridgetown.

8. Lord Carlisle died, leaving the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts, with remainder to his son. The latter transferred his interest to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. Lord Willoughby, on his arrival as Governor, caused an Act to be passed acknowledging the King's dominion over Barbados and recognising his own position. He continued to govern the Island throughout the Civil War, but was compelled to relinquish the Government when the Commonwealth was established.

9. Many Royalist families found refuge in Barbados as a result of the Civil War, and with the Restoration Lord Willoughby agitated for the revival of his rights. In 1663, the Privy Council decided that he should receive half the annual profits derived from Barbados for the rest of his lease, with remainder to the Government, and that half should go towards the payment of the Marlborough claim and the heirs of Lord Carlisle. After the discharge of all the liabilities the heirs of Lord Carlisle were to get £1,000 a year.

10. In order to raise this money a 4½ per cent. duty was imposed on all exports from the Island. This was a constant source of grievance to the colonists, but it was not until 1834 that the Barbados Legislature passed an Act remitting the duty, which was finally abolished in 1838. The position of the British West Indian planter was at that time very difficult owing to the abolition of slavery in British dominions, and the fact that he still had to compete with the slave-grown produce of other West Indian islands.

11. Barbados, unlike most of the other British West Indian islands, has never passed out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members, and a House of Assembly elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage. Next to the House of Commons, and perhaps the House of Assembly in Bermuda, the Barbados House of Assembly is the most ancient legislative body in the Empire.

12. The executive functions of the Government are performed by an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be nominated by His Majesty the King, with one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly nominated by the Governor. Members of the Assembly are elected annually.

13. The Colony is divided into eleven parishes, each having its affairs controlled by a Board elected annually and called the Vestry. The Vestries deal with the care of the poor and sick, sanitation, maintenance of roads as well as of Church and school buildings, in their districts, and are authorised to levy certain rates and taxes to meet their expenses independently of the Central Government.

14. Barbados is by its natural and climatic conditions the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands, and is much patronised by residents in neighbouring Colonies as a health resort. The anopheles mosquito (the carrier of malaria) is not found in the Island. This is a somewhat curious fact, since it is reasonably certain that it must be imported, not infrequently, in vessels which in many cases lie in the "Careenage" or inner harbour for considerable periods on arrival from places where it is prevalent. The conditions, however, are perhaps unfavourable to its breeding ashore.

15. The hot and rainy season lasts from the beginning of June to the beginning of November, the shade temperature then ranging usually between 80° and 85° F. The Island gets the full benefit of the north-east trade winds, and between November and May the night temperature sometimes falls as low as 64° F. For the greater part of the year the temperature is delightfully equable and the heat is seldom oppressive. Few places, indeed, enjoy a more pleasant climate. The winter months are regarded as "The Tourist Season."

16. Barbados lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, though it is a matter of history that hurricanes have swept over the Island at intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, and have done great damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks are unknown.

II.—General Observations.

1. The sugar industry underwent very unfavourable conditions during the year 1926-27. With only a moderate crop, the price at which sugar was sold was the lowest for many years. The severe drought during the first part of 1926 caused also a great scarcity of provision crops, the normal quantities of which were not available until August or September.

2. The revenue of the Colony for the year 1926-27 shows a decrease of £16,670, as compared with the previous year. This decrease is due to the smaller yield of sugar and reduced prices, which are reflected in receipts from Income Tax. A fuller account is given under Head III, Financial.

3. The value of imports for the year decreased by £140,610, the articles principally affected being cotton manufactures, fish (salted and dried), and oats. Tobacco showed a decrease of £4,358, due to falling-off in quantity of imported cigarettes, owing to the establishment of two factories for local manufacture. Import duties amounted to £171,436, as compared with £175,638 for 1925. This decrease of £4,202 is due not so much to the quantities imported but to the fall in the prices of goods on which *ad valorem* duty is levied.

4. The value of staple exports was less than that of the previous year by £159,452, which, as already indicated, is due both to a reduced output and to a drop in prices.

5. The sugar crop of 1926 fell short of that of the previous year by a little more than 1,000 tons. After a very severe drought the rainy season of 1925 scarcely began before the end of July; there followed then a period during which the rainfall was unevenly distributed. To the increased area of the seedling cane variety Ba.11569, remarkable for its drought resistance and power of rapid recovery and growth with the advent of the rainy season,

is attributable the close approach of the year's yield to that of the previous year.

The average price obtained for dark crystal sugar was $2.75 per 100 lb.

6. The average rainfall for the Colony for 1925 was 47.48 inches, which was 13.58 inches or 22.24 per cent. below the average for the sixty years ended 31st December, 1925, which was 61.06.

7. The erection of the new pumping station at the Belle Waterworks is proceeding. Orders have been placed for machinery, the greater part of which has arrived, and it is anticipated that it will not be long before the station is opened. The addition of this station to the water supply system will go far to remove cause for anxiety or apprehension such as has existed in the past during periods of drought.

8. The British Union Oil Company were still operating in the Colony during the year, but no oil-bunkering business has been undertaken.

9. The removal of the wreck "Guarany" has been completed by the contractors, the operations taking a longer period of time to complete than was at first anticipated. The wreck occupied practically the centre and best anchorage of the harbour, and its removal will greatly facilitate the work of the port.

10. During the Legislative Session of 1926-27 fifty-nine Acts were passed, the most important of which were :—

> An Act to provide for the Celebration of the Tercentenary of the First Settlement of Barbados.
>
> The Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, dealing with the overcrowding of steamers arriving with passengers.
>
> The Anglican Church (Amendment) Act, prescribing the manner of appointing Bishops, Rectors, Vicars, &c.
>
> The Better Security (Amendment) Act, providing for the protection from intimidation by lawless characters of those who are willing to work during a strike of labourers.

11. The Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement, which was the result of a Conference held at Ottawa in 1925, was brought into force, by consent of all contracting parties, on the 30th April, 1927, and the Tariff Preferences came into operation from that date. The steamship service provided for in the Agreement has not yet been fully established. The ships intended for employment in the service are now in course of construction, and it is expected that they will be completed during next year. The Legislature of the Colony has undertaken to contribute £5,000 annually towards the subsidy as soon as the steamship service has become fully operative. For the present, one passenger boat a month and a fortnightly freight service are being maintained between Canada and the islands of the West Indies.

12. The year marked the three hundredth anniversary of the settlement of Barbados by the British, and the Legislature in January passed an Act directing that Monday, the 21st February, 1927, should be observed as a public holiday in celebration of the Tercentenary of the Settlement and voted the sum of £100 to meet the cost of such celebration. A parade of the local forces was held. Vice-Admiral Sir Walter Cowan, Bart., Commander-in-Chief of the North Atlantic and West Indies Station, was good enough to permit a contingent of blue-jackets and marines from His Majesty's ships then in port to take part in the parade, which was attended by Members of the Legislature, officials, and a great number of the general public. The presence of the men from His Majesty's ships was a source of much gratification to the community. A joint Address of Loyalty to His Majesty the King by the Legislature was presented at a special meeting to His Excellency the Governor for transmission through the Secretary of State for the Colonies. During the afternoon a gymkhana was held at the Garrison savannah, and sports for the elementary school children took place at the Kensington Cricket Ground. The events were keenly contested and there was a large attendance at both places. A special postage stamp has been issued to mark the Tercentenary.

13. During the year there was one retirement from the public service under the Pension Act, Mr. C. A. Bartlett, Police Magistrate, District "B," having reached the age limit. It is a pleasure to be able to record that His Majesty the King was graciously pleased to confer on Mr. Bartlett the Imperial Service Order as a recognition of his faithful service as a public officer of the Colony for close on fifty years.

III.—Financial.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The following table shows the gross revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1922-23	519,213	502,524
1923-24	444,646	420,461
1924-25	504,696	364,530
1925-26	404,132	394,249
1926-27	387,462	418,711

In these amounts are included receipts and payments on account of loans. If these amounts are deducted, the ordinary revenue for the year 1926-27 was £379,286, as compared with £390,774 for 1925-26, and the ordinary expenditure £410,536, compared with £380,890. Included in the figures are several large items of capital expenditure which it is proposed to transfer to loan account if and when authority for a further loan is sanctioned.

The balance in the Treasury on the 31st of March, 1927, was £215,287, £100,000 of which has been placed to the Reserve Fund and invested, to be used only with the sanction of the Legislature for emergencies. The actual available balance was £115,287 which is less by £31,248 than the balance at the end of the preceding year.

Revenue.

2. The revenue for 1926-27 shows a decrease of £16,670 mainly due to the decrease in the amount collected for Income Tax, which was £16,413 and is accounted for by a smaller yield of sugar and reduced prices.

Increases occurred under several heads, the most important being Import Duties, £5,798, and Port and Harbour Dues, £1,735. The increase in respect of the latter is due principally to better facilities which now exist for supplying water to shipping. On the other hand there were decreases, under certain heads other than Income Tax, amounting in the aggregate to £8,000, the principal ones being £5,084, Reimbursements-in-Aid; £1,242, interest on Banking Account; and £1,932 in Receipts from Estate Duty and the Government Wireless Station. The total increases under all heads were £9,643 and decreases £26,313, which shows the decrease of £16,670 mentioned above.

3. In addition to the above revenue the sum of £124,778 was raised by the various parochial bodies for the upkeep of their Institutions and for poor relief; of this amount £20,725 was allocated for highway purposes.

Expenditure.

4. The expenditure for 1926-27, excluding loan funds, was £410,536, an increase of £19,645 over the previous year. The total expenditure for the year exceeded that of the previous year by £24,462.

5. The largest spending departments are the Police, Education Medical, and Waterworks. The expenditure under these heads was as follows :—

	£		£	
Police ...	43,768,	an increase of	1,633	compared with 1925–26.
Education	43,176,	,, ,,	1,579	,, ,,
Medical ...	40,966,	,, ,,	263	,, ,,
Waterworks	61,374,	,, ,,	9,969	,, ,,
	£189,284			

The total expenditure on the four departments, £189,284, which represents 46 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

6. The increase in the expenditure of these four departments is due to the following reasons :—

Police.—Force brought up to full strength authorised by the Police Amendment Act, 1924-34. On the 31st December, 1926, it was one short of full strength.

Education.—Extra expenditure on school buildings and salaries.

Medical Department.—Increments on salaries and necessary increases in the votes for upkeep of the various institutions.

Waterworks.—Erection of Belle Pumping Station and the fixing of additional standpipes.

7. Increases occurred under almost all heads which were more or less due to increments in salaries, as well as bonus additions now included under personal emoluments, and to increased votes for certain incidental expenses.

8. The total increases in expenditure under all heads was £35,254 and decreases £10,793, showing a net increase of £24,461 over 1925-26.

PUBLIC DEBT.

9. The Public Debt remained the same at the 31st March, 1927, as at 31st March, 1926, viz., £591,000, the Sinking Fund on that date being £286,780 as compared with £267,206 in 1926.

BANKS.

10. *Government Savings Bank.*—On the 31st December, 1926, there were 11,644 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £623,746. The value of the invested funds was £729,802. The figures for 1925 were : deposits £643,013, invested funds £774,244, and number of depositors 11,612. The number of depositors increased by 32, but there was a decrease of £19,267 in the amount deposited, which is probably due to smaller sugar crops and the low price obtained for sugar. The decrease in the value of the invested funds is due to maturing of certain investments and to the disposal of others.

11. *Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.*—This Bank was established in 1906, with a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Government, to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. In 1921 the loans with interest totalled £462,107, and at the close of the

year, the 31st May, 1927, £25,542 remained unpaid, as compared with £32,829 in 1926. The unpaid balances due on loans for the years 1924 to 1927 were as follows :—

	£
1924	450
1925	6,905
1926	8,904
1927	49,036,

making a total of £90,839 due to the Bank on the 1st May, 1927. The large amount owing in respect of the year 1927 is due to the fact that crops have not yet been sold; as soon as a sale has been effected the balance will be almost entirely repaid.

12. Loans amounting to £174,430 were made to 115 borrowers during the year 1926-27, and are slightly in excess of the previous year when loans totalling £170,890 were made to 113 borrowers. The profit of the Bank for the year was £5,987, as compared with £5,962 for 1926. The Bank has the first lien against the land of the estates by which loans are due, and the utmost caution is taken to avoid loss to the Bank. The capital of the Bank on the 31st May, 1927, was £177,910, as compared with £171,922 in 1926.

IV.—Trade, Agriculture and Industry.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.

1. The total value of imports and exports for the last five years has been as follows :—

	Imports.	*Exports.*
	£	£
1922	2,480,320	1,259,794
1923	2,521,882	2,189,740
1924	2,556,297	1,858,301
1925	2,293,777	1,421,035
1926	2,153,167	1,287,161

Imports.

2. The imports for 1926 show a decrease of £140,610, as compared with £262,520 for the previous year.

3. The principal decreases were as follows :—

	Value.	*Decrease.*
	£	£
Cotton manufactures	167,564	50,724
Fish, salted	64,323	50,673
Oats	31,097	32,353
Manures	112,390	23,568
Pork, salted	27,163	9,035
Cotton seed (for oil extraction) ...	17,224	11,594

	Value.	*Decrease.*
	£	£
Boots	30,463	6,419
Sugar, refined	10,315	5,956
Tea	4,490	7,888
Tobacco, manufactured	30,316	4,358
Wood, manufactured	22,400	8,372
Apparel	18,705	6,562

4. There were increases in the following items :—

	Value.	*Increase.*
	£	£
Rice	170,546	57,532
Flour	110,636	18,060
Oilmeal and oilcake	48,284	14,898
Beef, salted	37,193	9,183
White pine	43,368	12,420
Staves and shooks	49,742	8,070
Pitch-pine	33,383	3,135
Kerosene	22,348	3,685
Gasolene	27,737	1,225
Shingles	19,186	6,729

It is interesting to note that, while there has been a decrease of £2,186 in the value of motor-cars imported, there has been an increase of £2,381 in the value of motor-car parts. There are very few English cars imported; the large majority being of American manufacture imported through Canada.

5. The total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	733,843
Raw materials	369,482
Manufactured articles	830,479
Miscellaneous	70,553
	2,004,357
Specie	2,000
	£2,006,357

Exports.

6. The total value of the exports was £1,287,161, of which £988,377 represents the value of the produce and manufacture of the Colony and £298,784 items re-exported, including bunker coal

7. As compared with the two previous years the value of the principal articles of local produce exported is as follows :—

——	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*
	£	£	£
Sugar	997,869	686,238	593,819
Molasses	524,927	395,910	310,745
Cotton	36,113	22,998	40,623
Rum	1,370	1,329	2,496

8. The decrease in the value as compared with that of 1925 is due to a fall in the price and not to the quantities shipped; 1,674 more tons of sugar and 108,939 more gallons of molasses being shipped in 1926 than in 1925.

9. Rum manufactured during the year amounted to 305,528 gallons, of which 23,959 gallons were exported, as compared with 19,891 gallons in 1925, the balance being consumed locally.

10. Cotton exported during the year amounted to 315,912 lb., an increase of 79,281 lb. over 1925. The value of cotton exports was £40,623, as compared with £22,998 for the previous year. The increased value is due not only to the greater quantity exported but also to enhanced market prices.

11. The following table gives the value of the exports of other articles locally produced or manufactured :—

	£
Bay rum	877
Biscuits	8,403
Cotton-seed meal	1,966
Fruits and nuts	5,970
Hides and skins	5,080
Lime, building	5,208
Manjak	3,551
Oils, edible	1,397
Vegetables, fresh	8,217

12. The average prices for sugar, and its by-products, and cotton for the last seven years are given below :—

——	*1920.*			*1921.*			*1922.*			*1923.*			*1924.*			*1925.*			*1926.*		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Sugar, per ton	63	15	0	22	10	0	16	5	0	25	10	0	24	10	0	14	10	0	12	15	0
Molasses, per gal.	0	3	1	0	1	5	0	1	1	0	1	3	0	1	7	0	1	0	0	0	9
Rum, per gal.	0	4	6	0	12	0	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	2	2	0	2	1	0	2	1
Cotton, per lb.	0	1	5	0	1	10	0	1	10	0	1	10	0	2	1	0	2	0	0	2	8½

TRANSIT GOODS.

13. The value of goods entered for transhipment was £91,057 less than in 1925. The following are the figures for the last three years :—

	£
1924	193,655
1925	225,023
1926	133,966

BUNKERING TRADE.

14. One hundred and fifty steamers took 32,708 tons of coal, valued at £81,755, during the year, as compared with 121 steamers which took 30,895 tons, valued at £46,342, in 1925; the increased cost being no doubt due to industrial causes. For the years 1921-1925 the average number of steamers which took coal was 108, the average amount taken being 30,293 tons.

The following are the figures for the last seven years :—

	Steamers.	*Tons.*
1920	215	74,599
1921	97	34,308
1922	113	33,374
1923	111	29,628
1924	97	23,258
1925	121	30,895
1926	150	32,702

DIRECTION OF TRADE.

15. The distribution of the import trade according to countries of origin for the last five years is given in the following table :—

—	*1922.*	*1923.*	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*
	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.	per cent.
United Kingdom	31·6	32·9	33·0	36·3	30·9
Canada	22·1	24·1	22·4	20·9	20·5
Other parts of the British Empire	16·1	16·6	15·1	15·2	18·5
United States of America ...	24·1	19·6	21·4	18·7	21·6
Other Foreign Countries	6·1	6·8	8·1	8·9	8·5

The value of the imports from the above places for 1926, exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	666,242
Canada	442,344
Other parts of the British Empire	397,717
United States of America	465,917
Other foreign countries	182,947

16. The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	7,332	2,283
Butter	4,204	949
Oilmeal (cattle food)	44,438	3,729
Coal	—	70,040
Cornmeal	1,719	32,960
Fish (salted)	28,951	—
Flour	88,797	21,678
Oats	31,097	—
Manures	17,334	6,461
Salt beef	931	34,461
Pork	15,180	11,786
Wood (various)	86,790	61,673

DESTINATION OF EXPORTS.

17. The following table gives the value of the exports to the various countries for the past six years :—

—	*1921.*	*1922.*	*1923.*	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	105,687	149,058	427,677	205,921	204,970	247,987
Canada	653,332	655,649	1,280,543	1,182,971	767,619	593,474
Other parts of British Empire.	137,183	106,886	121,593	83,297	97,001	70,152
United States of America.	67,429	44,245	53,048	101,190	54,909	61,756
Other foreign countries.	10,019	9,130	15,100	17,962	19,895	15,008
	973,650	964,968	1,897,961	1,591,341	1,114,394	988,377

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as compared with 1925 are :—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	8.0	—
Canada	—	6.9
Other parts of British Empire	—	2.3
United States of America	1.4	—
Other foreign countries	—	0.2

18. The value of sugar and molasses shipped to the various countries is as follows :—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	208,010	2,028
Canada	361,451	231,927
Newfoundland	31	19,975
United States of America ...	—	56,701
Holland	875	—
Elsewhere	23,452	114

The value of sugar and molasses exported was less than in 1925 by £92,419 and £85,165, respectively.

AGRICULTURE.

Sugar and Molasses.

19. According to the Customs returns for the year 1926, 42,990 tons of vacuum pan crystals, 2,795 tons of muscovado sugar, and 7,760,334 wine gallons of molasses, equal, at 110 gallons per puncheon, to 70,549 puncheons of molasses of all grades, were exported of the total value of £904,564, made up as follows :—

		Value.	
Sugar.	*Tons.*	£	£
Dark crystal	42,990	558,871	
Muscovado	2,795	34,948	
			593,819
	45,785		
Molasses.	*Gallons.*		
Fancy	7,085,523	295,230	
Choice	431,608	13,488	
Vacuum pan	243,203	2,027	
			310,745
	7,760,334		
			£904,564

The average price for dark crystal sugar was $2.75 per 100 lb.

20. The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

	Tons.
1922	51,074
1923	62,711
1924	54,493
1925	65,567
1926	64,431

It is estimated that approximately 35,000 acres are under sugar-cane annually.

Cotton.

21. The total number of acres planted in cotton for the season 1925-26 was 3,676 acres, and the approximate total yield was 1,205,509 lb. of seed cotton, the general yield of the Island being 328 lb. of seed cotton per acre. The lint percentage obtained was 24.6 per cent., the yield of cotton seed 895,320 lb., and the yield of lint 296,555 lb., the loss being 13,634 lb.

From the Customs returns it is ascertained that for the year 1st October, 1925, to 30th September, 1926, there were exported 548 bales of lint, weighing 298,715 lb. and valued at £46,051 17*s*. 11*d*., and 27 bales of linters, weighing 13,363 lb. and valued at £230 9*s*. 3*d*. The value of 895,320 lb of cotton seed at $40.00 per ton is £3,330 16*s*. 1*d*. The approximate total value of the cotton crop of the Island for 1925-26 is therefore £49,613 3*s*. 3*d*.

22. The following table gives the comparison of cotton crops by the crop, that is, from the 1st October of one year to the 30th September of the next year :—

—	*Crop of 1924–25.*	*Crop of 1925–26.*	*Increase.*
Acres	2,301	3,676	1,375
Quantity (lint) lb.	224,126	298,715	74,589
Value	£23,251	£46,052	£22,801

SHIPPING.

23. The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,176 with a net tonnage of 1,904,548, as compared with 1,140 vessels with a tonnage of 1,634,677 during the previous year. In addition, five ships of war and four yachts visited the port.

24. The number of seamen employed at the port during the year was 4,122, while 3,846 were discharged. The estimated amount of money brought in during the year as wages by seamen belonging to the Colony was £50,000, as compared with £21,000 for 1925-26.

V.—Education.

1. The schools of the Island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, almost entirely supported by Government grants, are not Government schools. They are supervised, however, by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons nominated by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspector of Schools and his

assistants are nominated by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Central Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

2. There are three grades of schools recognised by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 133 in 1926, second-grade, six in number, five for boys and one for girls, and three first-grade schools, Harrison College and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. Harrison College and Queen's College are situated in Bridgetown, the Lodge School in the parish of Saint John. The Lodge School is the only school at which boarders are accommodated. The elementary schools are annually classified as first, second, or third class schools according to the efficiency of each school in its work, tone, &c. There are also three "ragged schools" for the very poor.

3. The number of children on the school registers in 1926 was 22,595 and the average attendance 14,610, which is a slight increase on the two previous years. It is sometimes said that a large number of the children of the Colony have no opportunity of education, but there is very little ground for this opinion. According to the Census of 1921, the number of children between five and twelve years of age was about 26,000, of which 25,533 were returned as attending educational institutions. Allowing for a certain proportion over twelve and a few under five the number receiving no education cannot be large.

4. The second-grade school for girls, which was being erected last year, is now completed at a total cost of £16,000, voted by the Vestry of Saint Michael for the purpose. It has not yet been opened. The cost of erection has been borne entirely by the Vestry, but it is recognised that the Legislature must afford financial assistance for its maintenance. A scheme for governing the school has recently been submitted for consideration.

5. Codrington College is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academical ranks in the several Faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from fifteen to twenty. The Government provides three scholarships annually to the value of £60 per annum and tenable for three years. The College has recently been destroyed by fire, but provision has been made for carrying on its courses until it is restored.

6. The grant for Education in 1926 was £45,428, of which £1,284 is the cost of the Education Board and Head Office, £8,660 grants to first and second grade schools, £843 for University education, and £33,213 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses.

7. Of the £33,213 allocated to elementary schools, £27,633 was used for paying the salaries of the teachers. The total fees collected from elementary pupils for the year was £1,849.

8. School gardens are cultivated at a fair number of the schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there was a large display of exhibits from the elementary schools.

9. Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, twelve apprentices have completed their first year's and ten their second year's course. The course of training lasts from three to five years, according to the trade chosen.

10. The three first-grade schools enter candidates for the Oxford and Cambridge Higher Certificates, School Certificate, and Lower Certificate Examinations, as well as for the Cambridge Local. The second-grade schools enter for the Junior Cambridge Local and School Certificate Examinations.

11. The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were five male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1921 eighty-three teachers, fifty-two male and thirty-one female, have passed through the Institute, of whom sixty-three (twenty male and forty-three female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant from the Government of £450.

VI.—Social and Vital Statistics and Public Health.

1. The last census was taken in 1921, and showed a decrease of population since 1911 of 15,671. Some of the more important figures of this census, compared with that of 1911, are given below :—

	1911.	1921.
Total population	171,983	156,312
Number of whites	12,063	10,429
Number of blacks	118,387	111,677
Number of mixed	41,533	34,216
Number per square mile, St. Michael	3,825	3,623
Number per square mile, whole Island	1,034	940
Percentage of females	59.2	59.7
Number of agricultural labourers	36,233	32,728
Attending educational institutions	34,244	25,533
Afflicted persons	1,200	1,124

2. The population on the 31st December, 1926, was estimated to be 169,385, but as this estimate depends on emigration and immigration figures, which experience has shown to be often seriously inaccurate, not much reliance can be placed upon it. These figures show 9,897 departures from the Colony during the year, and 11,792 arrivals.

3. The emigration to the United States of America is controlled by the immigration laws in force in the States. The annual quota allowed to the Colony by the American Government is about 60.

4. The birth-rate during the year was 31.32 per 1,000, and the death-rate 29.62. The percentage of illegitimate births was 68.83.

5. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

—	*Birth-rate.*	*Illegitimate Percentage.*	*Death-rate.*
1922	34·33	66·97	22·41 per 1,000
1923	37·44	70·1	37·11 "
1924	32·91	68·24	29·54 "
1925	34·85	70·92	29·46 "
1926	31·32	68·83	29·62 "

6. The following table gives the principal causes of death, as compiled from the returns made under the Registration of Deaths Act :—

Causes.	*Actual number of deaths.*	*Rate per 1,000 of total mortality.*	*Rate per 1,000 of estimated population.*
Fevers :—			
Enteric	71	15	0.4
Malaria	(a)	—	—
Other (except puerperal)	—	—	—
Bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhœa and enteritis*.	1,319	278	8·0
Pneumonia and bronchitis†	244	46	1·34
Kidney diseases	207	42	1·3
Phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis	221	45	1·4
Diseases peculiar to early infancy ...	444	95	2·8
Old age	132	28	0·8
Diseases of the heart	358	79	2·3
Syphilis‡	528	110	3·7
Diseases of the nervous system	346	76	2·3

---

* 85 per cent. of this were of children under three years of age.
† 63 " " " "
‡ 83 " " " "
(a) Imported case at observation hospital, quarantine station.

7. The rate of infant mortality still remains high, the number per 1,000 during the last five years being :—

	Infant deaths per 1,000 births.
1922	187
1923	371
1924	298
1925	312
1926	314

PUBLIC HEALTH.

8. Barbados enjoys natural advantages from a health standpoint, which few tropical places can surpass. Its climate is equable, without extreme heat or cold in any part; the soil is well drained by nature and the Island is constantly swept by trade winds. It has an admirable water supply which is well distributed to all parts of the Island. Malaria is unknown and people who can afford to live away from insanitary surroundings are generally healthy and vigorous.

9. Typhoid fever and dysentery are common; the following table gives the cases of enteric fever notified during the last five years :—

1922	1,084
1923	735
1924	762
1925	432
1926	441

10. The occupation incidence of enteric fever is given below :—

Labourers	117
School children	86
Domestic servants	49
Artisans and mechanics	40
Seamstresses	7
Nil (generally under school age)	38
Hawkers	8
Clerks and teachers	10
Housewives	16
Laundresses	3
Sailors	4
Lightermen, fishermen, and porters	7
Policemen	2
Not stated	54
	441

11. The high incidence of enteric fever is probably due to insanitary conditions and perhaps also to a more or less general distrust of prophylactic preventive measures. The water supply is tested regularly and reports are invariably satisfactory.

12. The Health Commission appointed in 1925 to enquire into the Public Medical and Sanitary Services in the Colony and the conditions of public health have submitted their report which has been communicated to the Legislature for consideration.

13. There is a venereal disease clinic conducted under the auspices of the Barbados General Hospital in Bridgetown and there is now under consideration the construction of an up-to-date clinic on lands adjoining the Hospital, for which the sum of £4,000 has been voted by the Legislature. It seems certain, however, that clinics are required in the country districts for the treatment of those who are unable from various causes to attend the clinic at the Hospital. During the year, 528 deaths occurred from syphilis, of which number 452 were children under five years of age.

14. The treatment of leprosy with ethyl esters of chaulmoogra oil still continues at the leper asylum, and up to the present twenty-nine inmates have been medically boarded and discharged conditionally.

CRIMINAL STATISTICS.

15. The records for 1926 do not disclose that conditions have changed to any appreciable extent as compared with previous years, the only notable feature being the steady reduction in the number of convictions for praedial larceny. A comparative statement for the last three years is given below :—

——	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*
Total number of persons committed to prison ...	1,278	1,208	1,249
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	42	33	43
Daily average in prison (males)	197	172	187
Daily average in prison (females)	46	39	36
Police Court convictions	10,605	10,856	10,775
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny ...	732	586	504
Convictions by Superior Court	76	62	77
Convictions by Superior Court for praedial larceny ...	—	—	—

VII.—Communications.

BY SEA.

1. Communication with England is maintained by steamers of the Elders and Fyffe Company and the Royal Dutch West India Line, which call here fortnightly. These steamers also call at

Trinidad and the Spanish ports as far as Colon, the former going to Jamaica. They are admirably equipped for passengers, and carry and bring the bulk of the passengers between the United Kingdom and Barbados. Freight steamers are also run by the Harrison and Leyland Lines, which call here regularly, continuing on to Trinidad and the Spanish ports as far as Colon. Some of the Harrison steamers also go to Demerara. Two of the steamers of the Harrison Line are equipped for passengers and receive an appreciable amount of patronage, their freight steamers, however, take a very limited number.

2. The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, which maintained a fortnightly service between Halifax and Saint John via Bermuda, West Indies, and British Guiana, for which they were paid a subsidy by the Canadian Government, ceased to operate on the termination of the contract, and a new contract has been awarded to the Canadian Government Merchant Marine for a regular fortnightly service from Canada to Barbados via Bermuda and the British Northern Islands, proceeding to Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and Demerara, which, it is expected, will be operating in full in about a year's time as soon as the ships for maintaining the service are completed. At present two of the new ships, the "Canadian Skirmisher" and "Canadian Pathfinder" are vessels of 8,000 tons each, and are fitted for first, second, and third class passengers; the "Canadian Volunteer" and "Canadian Carrier" are of 4,400 tons each, but are not fitted with first and second class accommodation. All four steamers, however, carry a limited number of deckers.

The Ocean Dominion Steamship Corporation and the Pickford and Black Limited have also recently inaugurated a Canada and West Indies Service both south-bound and north-bound.

3. The steamers of the Lamport and Holt Line call here fortnightly on their route to and from New York and Brazilian ports. These ships are well equipped for passengers, and convey the bulk of the mails between the United States and Barbados.

In addition to these, the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company and the Clyde Line operate monthly between New York and the northern islands. The former are equipped for carrying passengers and freight, while the latter are freight steamers with a limited passenger accommodation.

4. Other lines of steamers call all the year round for bunkers, stores, &c., and, on the whole, Barbados is well served as far as communication with other parts of the world is concerned. The

number of ships bringing and taking mails is given below, as compared with 1925 :—

—	*Steamers.*		*Sailing Ships.*	
	1925.	*1926.*	*1925.*	*1926.*
Mails for Barbados	396	437	29	44
Mails from Barbados	364	428	51	105

TELEGRAPH.

5. There are three telegraph systems in operation in the Colony, viz. :—the Pacific Cable Board (West Indian System) with their direct cable via Turks Island, cables to Trinidad and British Guiana, and wireless station in the Windward and Leeward Islands; the West India and Panama Telegraph Company Limited maintaining its old service; and the Western Union Telegraph Company to Miami, and the Western Telegraph Company to Brazil.

INTERNAL.

6. The Barbados Government Railway consists of 24 miles of rail which runs through the southern parishes and along the eastern coast. At present the rolling-stock and line is in fairly good condition.

7. The Colony is well provided with a motor-bus service between Bridgetown and the suburbs and all the country districts. There is a regular service between Bridgetown and the leeward parishes which are not tapped by the railway. For this service the Government pays a subsidy of £200 per annum.

8. There has been little or no improvement in the condition of the roads, which have continued to get worse owing to the increased motor traffic, and the Legislature have recently amended the Central Road Board Act, taking the roads of the parish of Saint Michael out of the hands of the Highway Commissioners and placing them under the control of the Central Road Board which is adequately equipped with staff and plant. Sums amounting in the aggregate to £18,000 have been voted by the Legislature for reconditioning and repairing roads in the parish of Saint Michael. In addition, the Act provides that the taxes raised by the Vestry for highway purposes, about £6,000 to £7,000, shall be paid over to the Central Road Board. The majority of the principal roads leading into the city are now undergoing extensive repairs.

While the roads have been temporarily placed under the control of the Central Road Board, it is still the intention that the Board should function in the manner originally intended, viz., the reconstruction of the main arterial roads of the Island, and for this purpose a scheme has been submitted by the Board to the Executive and has been communicated to the Legislature. Up to the present the total amount voted by the Legislature and placed at the disposal of the Central Road Board is as follows :—

£5,000 for administrative expenses, &c.
£12,000 for machinery (rollers, tractors, &c.).
£18,000 for repairs.

These amounts are in addition to the normal appropriation for road purposes. The Legislature, in pursuance of a request from the Vestries, has undertaken to increase by 50 per cent. the parochial grants for road purposes.

CYRIL E. STOUTE,
Acting Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
BARBADOS.

12*th July*, 1927.

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BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1927—28.

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HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY.

1. Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North, and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles with a population at the end of 1927 of 168,299. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

2. Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

3. The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is believed to have taken place in 1605, when the " Olive Blossom " put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew finding that it was uninhabited erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonising expedition which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I. granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the " Caribbee Islands." in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629, in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

4. In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognising the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle, and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

5. At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663 and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force, and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

6. Barbados claims, by its natural and climatic conditions, to be the healthiest of all the West Indian islands, and is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies; while visitors

from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find in it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fah. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 61°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados:—

> "Lying far out to sea its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the Western Tropics . . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the Tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

7. Unlike most of the other West Indian islands Barbados has never been out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine Members and a House of Assembly of twenty-four Members elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage. The Executive functions of the Government are vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be appointed by His Majesty the King together with one Member of the Legislative Council and four Members of the Assembly nominated by the Governor. The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the Members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

8. The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

I.—GENERAL.

Assuming that the standard of cultivation is maintained, the most important factor determining the year's prosperity in Barbados is its rainfall, there being no rivers or permanent waterways available for the purposes of irrigation, and the raising of water from wells is not always economical. During the year under review, sugar-cane, the staple crop of the Island, benefited by the seasons to an extent which enables the year to be classified as a good one. The season of growth of the 1926-28 cane was favourable. Wet conditions after planting at the end of 1926 induced satisfactory germination, and continued rains in most districts resulted in an advanced stage of growth by the month of June, 1927, so that crops produced, in tons of sugar, a quantity considerably in excess of the average. The total rainfall over the Island for the year 1927 was 64.02 inches or 3.40 inches over the average for 60 years up to and inclusive of 1926, and the rainfall measured at the Government Meteorological Station was 16.75 inches greater than the average of the ten previous years, viz., 42.28 inches. Rain fell on 227 days during the year, the greatest fall recorded at the Station being 3.69 inches on 15th October.

2. The outstanding service of public utility in Barbados continues to be its water supply, and on it depends largely the deal of truth that lies in the belief that Barbados is an exceptionally healthy tropical Colony. The supply is derived solely from rainfall and its quantity is dependent on the annual amount of precipitation on the coralline limestones forming the mass of the highlands of the Island. It is raised by means of wells from the limestone levels which constitute the reservoir for the waters which sink into the ground. These limestones are based on a more or less impervious retaining floor upon which the subterranean waters accumulate and flow to the sea. From wells this water is pumped by modern machinery into reservoirs whence it flows in all directions of supply to the service of the people. Throughout the Island there are placed numerous standpipes from which the peasantry and the masses of the people draw water free of charge. An additional high-power pumping station has recently been erected at a cost of £31,000. In course of time it is hoped to extend the system to populated areas where at present a pipe supply is not immediately handy, and a start has been made in connecting with the supply the numerous elementary schools scattered throughout the Parishes. In many instances water has at present to be carried to these schools from the nearest standpipe.

3. Not altogether unconnected perhaps with the abnormally wet period was the discovery in, and the spread through, the Leeward Parishes of the *Anopheles* mosquito, which hitherto had been unrecorded in Barbados. Its identification was made by Dr. E. A. Seagar, M.B., Ch.B., D.T.M., of the staff of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture at Trinidad, whose services were lent by the Principal of the College, at the request of the Government of Trinidad, for the purpose of investigating the suspected presence of anophelines. With gratifying promptitude also, the Government of Trinidad lent the services of several sanitary inspectors fully experienced in the work of exterminating the carrier of malarial fever to which, at the time, the sanitary organizations of Barbados were entirely unaccustomed. The consequent anti-mosquito campaign was pursued vigorously by the various parochial authorities and a general cleaning up has greatly improved local sanitary

conditions. With the return of normal weather conditions the work of the campaign was greatly facilitated, and the incidence of *anopheles* had by the end of the period under review so diminished that larvae were seldom discovered in recognised breeding places where previously they had been abundantly prevalent or in other places where their presence might have been suspected. It can be said that notwithstanding a general scepticism born of long immunity from endemic or epidemic malarial disease, the responsible sanitary bodies throughout the several Parishes faced the situation seriously and the measures for offence and defence advocated by Dr. J. T. C. Johnson, F.R.C.S., who was selected by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to control the campaign, were put generally into effect by those bodies. On the sustained application of these measures and a steadfast spirit of endeavour will depend the advance of *anopheles* when the rains return. The absence of permanent waterways and streams is a factor greatly in favour of the campaign and *anopheles* is heavily handicapped by this as well as by the porosity of rock and soil. There are, however, swampy areas and other places where drainage is desirable though difficult and the lack of one of the greatest assets in sanitary organization and practice, viz., the services of a Municipal Engineer, may involve parochial authorities in much additional expense and responsibility. Surveys of certain of these areas have been already made for parochial authorities by the Central Government, and the work is being continued. All extraordinary expenditure incurred by parochial boards in connection with the anti-mosquito campaign up to the end of the financial year has been met from funds provided by the Central Government.

4. In Barbados the administration of local affairs is vested in parochial authorities and boards, mainly independent of administrative control, which receive from the Central Government either grants-in-aid for specific purposes or the funds necessary for the conduct of public institutions. These representative bodies continue to perform the functions with which by law they are clothed, and it is certain that they relieve the Central Government of much responsibility and of many of the duties that would otherwise fall within those of the main Executive Authority. Their operations are directed mainly towards the maintenance of health and highways as well as in the provision of adequate means of sustenance for the poor. Parochial revenue amounted collectively during the year to £129,289 and expenditure to £130,164. The total cost of poor relief was £76,981 of which £37,285 was raised and expended by parochial authorities. Special grants for general revenue to the Parishes for highways purposes amounted to £13,500 in excess of those for which the law provides, and the total expended by Parochial Commissioners was £23,453. The total indebtedness of the Parishes under loans raised from time to time for various purposes was, at the end of the financial year, £24,693.

5. No changes have occurred in currency. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation, and British silver is legal tender to an unlimited amount. There is in addition a local dollar paper currency, the exchange value being fixed at $4.80 to the pound sterling.

6. British imperial standard weights and measures are everywhere employed.

II.—FINANCE.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1923-24	444,646	420,461
1924-25	504,696	364,530
1925-26	404,132	394,249
1926-27	387,462	418,711
1927-28	414,884	481,252

In these amounts are included receipts and payments on account of loans. If these amounts are deducted, the ordinary revenue for the year 1927-28 was £413,172, as compared with £379,286 for 1926-27, and the ordinary expenditure £479,540, compared with £410,536. Included in the figures are several large items of capital expenditure which it is proposed to transfer to loan account. Authority for a further loan has recently been sanctioned.

The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve funds set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1928, was £48,919.

Special Funds.

	£	s.	d.
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	43,417	17	1
Water Boat Renewal Fund	8,696	10	1
Red Cross Fund	1,456	16	5
Public Officers Security Fund	5,089	10	1
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	21,281	5	0
	£179,941	18	8

REVENUE.

2. The revenue for 1927-28 shows an increase of £27,422 over that of the previous year, the principal Heads showing increases being Customs £27,608; Excise £6,939; Post Office £1,004; Special Receipts £1,926; Railway £1,552; while the largest decreases occur under Reimbursements-in-aid £6,625 and Income Tax £6,328. The

increase under all heads was £41,353, while the decrease was £13,932. The rise in Customs Receipts is due in considerable part to an increase in the duty payable in respect of the importation of leaf tobacco used in the local manufacture of cigarettes and pipe tobacco.

EXPENDITURE.

3. The expenditure for 1927-28, excluding loan disbursements, was £479,540, an increase of £69,001 over the previous year. The total expenditure for the year exceeded that of the previous year by £62,541.

4. The largest spending departments are the Police, Education, Medical, and Waterworks. The expenditure under these heads was as follows :—

	£		Compared with 1926-27. £
Police	46,281,	an increase of	2,513
Education	47,519,	,, ,,	4,343
Medical	42,500,	,, ,,	1,534
Waterworks	63,900,	,, ,,	2,616
	£ 00,000.		

The total expenditure on the four departments, £200,000, represents 46 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

5. Increases occurred under almost all Heads and were more or less due to increments in salaries, as well as bonus additions now included under personal emoluments, and to increased votes for certain incidental expenses. The main increase, however, was incurred in respect of restoration of roads. The additional sum so expended amounted to £44,650 and was charged to surplus. The question as to the proportion of road charges involved in the work of reconstruction now being carried out which may properly be allocated to loan funds has yet to be decided.

6. The total increases in expenditure under all heads was £64,490 and decreases £1,958, showing a net increase of £62,532 over 1926-27.

PUBLIC DEBT.

7. The Public Debt remained the same at the 31st March, 1928, as at 31st March, 1927, viz., £591,000, the Sinking Fund on that date being £307,759 as compared with £286,780 in 1927. The accumulated sinking fund for the Water Works Loan of £375,000 was at the end of the financial year potentially full, and provision for further accretions to the fund are, for the present and as far as can be seen, no longer necessary. The Loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1928, were as follows :—

Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.*			*Amount outstanding.*			*Sinking Fund.*			*Date Redeemable.*
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	
Water Works Loan Act	375,000	0	0	375,000	0	0	258,047	5	8	15th March, 1928.
Public Works Loan Act	92,000	0	0	32,000	0	0	27,147	1	6	£6,000 July, 1928. £6,000 June to October, 1929. £6,000 October, 1930. £14,000 November, 1932.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	6,604	6	4	£11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Act, 1917, Special Loan Act, 1917 (No. 2), Special Loan Act, 1920, and Special Loan (Amendment) Act, 1922, Special Loan Act, 1922	147,000	0	0	147,000	0	0	15,961	1	1	£35,000 August, 1964. £30,000 February, 1965. £40,000 March, 1968. £25,000 April, 1969. £17,000 May, 1969.

8. *Government Savings Bank.*—On the 31st December, 1927, there were 11,970 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £603,954. The value of the invested funds was £729,088. The figures for 1926 were : deposits £623,746, invested funds £729,802, and number of depositors 11,644. The number of depositors increased by 326, and there was an increase of £21,426 in the amount deposited.

9. *Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.*—This Bank was established in 1906, with a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Government, to assist the sugar industry of the Colony.

Loans and Interest outstanding at 31st May, 1928, which are secured as a first lien against the land of the several borrowers, were made in the following years, and are due as under.

		Loans.			Interest.		
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
"1921" due from	15 Borrowers ...	23,583	16	9½	1,308	18	1
"1924" ,, ,,	1 Borrower ...	450	0	0	27	0	0
"1925" ,, ,,	6 Borrowers ...	6,146	0	2	337	8	8½
"1926" ,, ,,	9 Borrowers ...	6,643	2	5	321	3	9
"1927" ,, ,,	4 Borrowers ...	860	11	6½	71	18	4½
"1928" ,, ,,	38 Borrowers ...	28,503	10	11	590	16	5½
		£66,187	1	10	£2,657	5	4½

The capital on the Bank on the 31st May, 1928, was £184,011 8s. 3d., as compared with £177,910 in 1927.

10. The business done for the year exceeds that of the previous years, the loans made being £188,185, to 119 borrowers, as compared with £174,430, to 115 borrowers, in 1926-27, and £170,890, to 113 borrowers in 1925-26. The expenditure for the year was £1,968 and the profit £6,101, as compared with £1,903 and £5,987 for the year ended 31st May, 1927.

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

1. *Sugar.*—According to Customs returns for the year 1927, 50,220 tons of vacuum-pan sugar crystals, 2,885 tons of muscovado sugar, and 8,258,690 wine gallons of molasses were exported. The value of these exports, £1,242,335, was made up as follows :—

Sugar	*Tons.*	*Value.*	
Dark Crystals	$50,220^{17}$	£765,868	
Muscovado	$2,885^{4}$	49,769	
			£815,637
	$53,106^{1}$		
Molasses.	*Gallons.*		
Fancy	7,294,202	£410,299	
Choice	501,640	12,541	
Vacuum	462,848	3.858	
			£426,698
	8,258,690		£1,242,335

The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

	Tons.
1923	62,711
1924	54,493
1925	65,567
1926	64,431
1927	72,301

It is estimated that approximately 35,000 acres are under sugar-cane annually.

The average prices obtained for sugar, and its by-products, are as follows :—

	1923.			*1924.*			*1925.*			*1926.*			*1927.*		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Sugar, per ton ...	25	10	0	24	10	0	14	10	0	12	5	0	15	5	0
Molasses, per gallon		1	3		1	7		1	0			9			11
Rum, per gallon ...		2	0		2	0		2	0		2	1		2	1

The value and destination of sugar and molasses shipped from the Colony was as follows :—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	113,242	3,946
Canada	684,519	239,705
Newfoundland	2	27,566
United States of America ...	—	55,321
Holland	1,963	—
Elsewhere	15,896	153

The value of these commodities exported was more in 1927 than in 1926 by £221,818 and £115,953 respectively.

2. *Cotton.*—The total number of acres planted in cotton for the season 1926-27 was 3,526, and the approximate total yield was 787,394 lb. of seed cotton, the general yield of the Island being 223 lb. seed cotton per acre. The lint percentage obtained was 24.3, the yield of cotton seed 576,766 lb., and the yield of lint 191.337 lb., the loss being approximately 19,291 lb.

From the Customs returns it is ascertained that for the year from 1st October, 1926, to 30th September, 1927, there were exported 359 bales of lint, weighing 187,709 lb. and valued at £25,809 19s. 9d., and seven bales of linters, weighing 3,114 lb. and valued at £77 17s. The value of 576,766 lb. of cotton seed at $40.00 per ton is £2,145 14s. 2d. The approximate total value of the cotton crop of the Island for 1926-27 is therefore £28,033 10s. 11d. Cotton crops in Barbados run from the 1st October of one year to the 30th September of the following year. The following is a comparative statement covering the last two crop years :—

	Crop of 1925–26.	*Crop of 1926–27.*	*Decrease.*
Acres	3,676	3,526	150
Quantity (lint) lb.	298,715	187,709	111,006
Value	£46,052	£25,810	£20,242

Apart from the necessity, due to market conditions, for restricting the output of cotton, the industry is affected by the existence of disease and pests which are practically uncontrolled. Energetic steps, however, are being taken to remove or curtail these disabilities, and the Department of Agriculture is now strengthened in its efforts by recently enacted legislation on the subject. The average prices obtained for cotton during the last five years are :—

	Per lb. *s.*	 *d.*
1923	1	10
1924	2	1
1925	2	1
1926	2	8½
1927	2	5½

Mining.

3. A small quantity of manjak is mined and exported. The industry, however, remains undeveloped, and it appears that deposits are not explored or worked to an extent which their occurrence may justify.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

1. The value of the total trade of the Colony as well as that of imports and exports is shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* £	*Total Trade.* £
1923	2,521,982	2,189,740	4,711,722
1924	2,556,297	1,858,301	4,414,598
1925	2,293,777	1,421,035	3,714,812
1926	2,153,167	1,287,161	3,440,328
1927	2,278,243	1,603,531	3,881,774

2. The value of goods imported and entered for transhipment was £33,903 more than in 1926. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	£
1923	230,048
1924	193,655
1925	225,023
1926	133,966
1927	167,869

3. Imports during 1927 show an increase over 1926 of £125,076. The increase is due mainly to imports of cotton manufactures (£42,092), machinery (£34,996), manures (£20,350), cotton seed for pressing (£11,725), and motor-cars (£10,934). The articles of import in which the main decreases occurred were coal (£29,462), tobacco (all kinds) £12,297, beans and peas (£9,690), and oilmeal, etc. (£7,548). For the five years prior to 1927 the average quantity of coal taken by steamships was 27,741 tons. In 1927 the number of tons so taken was 26,786. The following figures relate to the export of coal during the last five years :—

	Steamships.	*Tons of coal.*
1923	111	29,628
1924	97	23,258
1925	121	30,895
1926	150	32,702
1927	127	26,786

4. The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin whence comes the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade :—

	1923.	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*
	%	%	%	%	%
United Kingdom	32·9	33·0	36·3	30·9	33·5
Canada	24·1	22·4	20·9	20·5	19·3
Other parts of the British Empire.	16·6	15·1	15·2	18·5	18·5
United States of America ...	19·6	21·4	18·7	21·6	19·9
Other Foreign Countries ...	6·8	8·1	88·9	8·5	8·8

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1927, exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	764,320
Canada	439,350
Other parts of the British Empire	420,737
United States of America	453,710
Other Foreign Countries	200,126

5. Total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	797,322
Raw Materials	376,281
Manufactured Articles	1,015,183
Miscellaneous	89,457
	£2,278,243
Specie	21,865
	£2,300,108

6. The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and Shoes	10,608	2,026
Butter	5,111	1,877
Oilmeal (cattle food)	38.948	1.372
Coal	—	39.858
Cornmeal	3,170	25,245
Fish (salted)	24,687	—
Flour	86,561	21,068
Oats	29.695	400
Manures	12,553	40,089
Salt beef	1,029	17,100
Pork	13,614	11,792
Wood (various)	46,917	27,089

7. The total value of exports was £1,603,531, of which £1,313,006 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £290,525 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows :—

	1927.		*1926.*		*1925.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£
Sugar (tons) ...	53,106	815,637	45,786	293,819	41,368	998,076
Molasses (gals.)	8,258,690	1,242,335	7,760,334	310,745	5,987,453	524,927
Cotton (lb.) ...	187,709	25,810	315,192	40,627	431,152	36,113
Rum (gals.) ...	22,225	2,315	18,692	1,947	12,645	1,370

	1924.		*1923.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Sugar (tons) ...	48,058	1,255,969	33,809	503,192
Molasses (gals.)...	6,359,158	594,557	7,390,409	409,934
Cotton (lb.) ...	448,300	39,574	194,199	17,776
Rum (gals.) ...	10,105	1 010	7,873	816

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 246.680 gallons.

8. The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows :—

	£
Bay Rum	825
Biscuits	15,840
Cotton Seed Meal	1,503
Fruits (Tamarind)	5,352
Hides and Skins	3,911
Lime, " building "	6,839
Manjak	1.485
Oils (edible)	1.880
Vegetables, fresh	8.306

9. The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years :—

	1923.	*1924.*	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	427,677	205,921	204,970	247,987	141,078
Canada	1,280,543	1,182,971	767,619	593,474	1,024,297
Other parts of British Empire.	121,593	83,297	97,001	70,152	76,489
United States of America.	53,048	101,190	54,909	61,756	58,279
Other Foreign Countries.	15,100	17,962	19,895	15,008	11,887
Stores (ships) ...	—	—	—	—	976
	£1,897,961	£1,591,341	£1,144,394	£988,377	£1,313,006

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as compared with 1926 are :—

	Increase. *Per cent.*	*Decrease.* *Per cent.*
United Kingdom	—	14·3
Canada	17·9	–
Other parts of the British Empire	—	1·2
United States of America	—	1·8
Other Foreign Countries	—	0·6

Competitive conditions favour generally the Dominion of Canada which, as indicated above, has absorbed wholly that portion of the Colony's produce represented by the falling off in exports to the United Kingdom and other places named. Freight rates, reciprocal trade relations, and marketing conditions are factors all of which tend increasingly to open still further the outlet for Colonial products in the markets of the Dominion but, while this is so and notwithstanding the higher freights charged in respect of the carriage of goods from the United Kingdom, the distribution of imports shows marked improvement only in so far as the United Kingdom is concerned.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

1. The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,226 with a net tonnage of 1,885,346, as compared with 1,176 vessels with a tonnage of 1,904,548 during the previous year. In addition, four ships of war and seven yachts visited the port. The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 3,679, while 3,441 were discharged. The estimated amount of money earned during the year as wages by seamen belonging to, and engaging in, the Colony for service of ships was £53,341, as compared with £50,000 for 1926-27. During the year no subsidies were paid for shipping services. The central position of Barbados

secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica, the mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are the Harrison and the Leyland Lines from Liverpool direct and the Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from London fortnightly. The Royal Dutch West India Line runs a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Bridgetown, touching at Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth on the return. These vessels, after leaving Barbados, proceed via ports to Colon. The Elders and Fyffes Line of steamers make monthly sailings from Avonmouth to Bridgetown. The duration of voyage from England varies from 12 to 15 days. The Canadian National Steamships make fortnightly sailings from Halifax or Montreal via Bermuda and the Leeward Islands, and cargo steamers of the same line arrive frequently from Canadian and West Indian ports. The Canadian National Steamships Company has evolved from the Canadian Government Merchant Marine, and is operated in connexion with the Canadian National Railways. The two passenger ships at present employed, viz., the " Canadian Skirmisher " and " Canadian Pathfinder," are vessels of 8,000 tons each and are fitted for first, second and third class passengers; the " Canadian Volunteer " and " Canadian Carrier " are freight steamers of 4,400 tons each and are not fitted with first and second class accommodation. All four steamers, however, carry a limited number of deckers. New steamers are expected to be ready toward the end of the year, when a regular fortnightly service from Canada to Barbados via Bermuda and the British northern islands will be maintained by well-equipped modern ships. The large and well-equipped steamers of Lamport and Holt Limited call fortnightly at Bridgetown on their journeys between New York and South American ports. They convey the bulk of the mails between the United States of America and Barbados, the duration of voyage from New York occupying seven days. In addition to these, the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company and the Clyde Line operate monthly between New York and the Colony. The former carry passengers and freight and the latter are freight steamers with but a limited passenger accommodation. The Ocean Dominion Steamship Corporation and Pickford and Black Limited have also inaugurated a Canada and West Indies Service both south bound and north bound.

Railways.

2. A light railway 24 miles long runs through the southern Parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a Company, was acquired by Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds

are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £12,500. The actual expenditure including extraordinary outlay was £17,283 and the actual revenue £12,865.

Roads.

3. The Island is a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in rural parishes is vested in the respective Highways Commissioners. That the work of these Commissioners in maintaining highways is inadequate is due largely to inability, owing to insufficient funds and the lack of skilled engineering assistance, to undo the damage to which the highways, built originally for light traffic, are now continuously subjected by heavy and modern motor vehicles. At a time when the road traffic of the Island was less than at present, and when, before the advent of self-propelled vehicles, it was of a lighter character, Barbados was justly proud of its highways but, with fast and heavy motor transport, roads have become steadily worse and the Colony is confronted by the problems and difficulties co-incidental everywhere with the development of modern methods of transport. As stated elsewhere in this report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land all of which is closely occupied, and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 120 miles of main roads and approximately 300 miles of cross roads and by-roads in more or less constant use.

The first definite step towards relieving the situation with which the Parochial Boards were met was the passing by the Legislature in 1926 of an Act constituting a Central Road Board with power under certain prescribed conditions to assume control of, and reconstruct, roads radiating from Bridgetown and traversing the parishes. These were classified as arterial roads, and early in 1927 operations on portions of them were commenced. To the Central Road Board there was assigned later in the year the additional task of repairing and maintaining the roads of the "Home" Parish of Saint Michael wherein the traffic of the Island converges. The additional responsibilities thus placed upon the Board served in a measure to curtail progress in the work of reconstruction for which primarily it was established. Funds for highways purposes are obtained from grants from general revenue provided by statute and from taxes. The statutory grant to Parishes amounts to a sum of £5,450 a year and this provision was augmented by additional grants during the year amounting to £13,500, making a total grant from Government of £18,950. The amount raised by parochial taxation was approximately £12,200, so that the total expenditure excluding that incurred in respect of the reconstruction programme and special repairs to Saint Michael's roads was £40,155. Funds voted to the Central Road Board for reconstruction purposes amounted during the year to £29,000, and for repairs to Saint Michael's roads £17,500, so that the total sum made available for highways purposes during the year amounted to approximately £86,655. The Central Road Board and each of the Parochial Road Boards conduct their operations independently of each other, and with a view to economy and co-ordination of effort proposals have been made whereby some degree of co-operation between the various Road Authorities may be brought into effect. It is, in any case, certain that expenditure on highways cannot be maintained at the level reached during the year under review without recourse to further taxation. Motor omnibuses ply between Bridgetown and suburbs, and all Parishes provide an efficient means of internal transport.

Postal, etc.

4. The postal service is well-organized and efficient. Steps were taken during the year towards expediting the delivery at the General Post Office of mails arriving from overseas. A daily delivery of mails in each Parish is in operation. Mail matter is received and despatched by steamers and sailing vessels as occasion offers. The basic rate of postage on letters within the Colony and to the United Kingdom and elsewhere is 1d. per oz.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails is given below, as compared with 1926 :—

	Steamers		*Sailing Ships.*	
	1926.	*1927.*	*1926.*	*1927.*
Mails for Barbados	437	453	44	31
Mails from Barbados	428	440	105	88

5. There are three telegraph systems in operation in the Colony, viz. :—the Pacific Cable Board (West Indian System), with their direct cable via Turks Island, cables to Trinidad and British Guiana, and wireless stations in the Windward and Leeward Islands; the West India and Panama Telegraph Company Limited maintaining its old service; and the Western Union Telegraph Company to Miami, and the Western Telegraph Company to Brazil.

6. All parts of the Island are connected by telephone with Bridgetown, the service being conducted by a private Company.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

1. The Statutes of Barbados are, in the main, similar to those of England, and the superior Courts are prescribed over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction is vested in a Judge of the Petty Debt Court in Bridgetown and seven Police Magistrates, five of whom in rural districts have jurisdiction in civil matters. From their decisions and judgments there lies an appeal to the Assistant Court of Appeal composed of three judges. Besides its appellate jurisdiction this Court possesses limited equitable and probate jurisdiction. The cost of maintaining Legal Departments during the year was £12,975.

2. The Police Force, under the command of an Inspector-General (who is also Commandant of the Local Forces), consists of 408 officers and men, the numbers having been brought up to full statutory strength during the year. An efficient Band is attached

to the Force. The Inspector-General of Police is charged also with the control of a Fire Brigade consisting of 25 men.

3. Glendairy Prison, in the Parish of Saint Michael, is the only convict prison. It is divided into two sections, one for each of the sexes, and is a highly efficient and well-conducted institution. Juvenile adult prisoners are classified and segregated from adults, and instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, cement work, baking, and other crafts. In regard to criminal statistics, prison records for 1927 show a reduction in excess of the number of commitments. A notable feature is the continued diminution in the number of convictions for praedial larceny, an offence which appears to be made singularly easy by prevailing conditions. The following is a comparative statement of convictions for the last three years :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*
Total number of persons committed to prison ...	1,208	1,249	831
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	33	43	41
Daily average in prison (males)	172	187	144
Daily average in prison (females)	39	36	24
Police Court convictions	10,856	10,775	9,839
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny ...	586	504	348
Convictions by Superior Court	62	77	50
Convictions by Superior Court for praedial larceny...	—	—	—

During the year a scheme for the after-care of discharged prisoners was inaugurated and promises to be of material advantage. The scheme was made possible by the willing co-operation of the local branch of the Salvation Army, the officers of which have undertaken to perform the duties involved in this welfare work. Proposals made to the Legislature for the adoption of a system of probation for first offenders have not as yet been adopted.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

Apart from operations connected with the erection of the new high-power pumping station at The Belle, no public works of importance were undertaken during the year by the Central Government. Work at this new station progressed favourably but was hindered by unavoidable delay in the fulfilment of requisitions for supplies from England. A large secondary school for girls in Saint Michael was erected during the year under contract let by the Education Board.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The total population on the 31st December, 1927, was estimated to be 168,299. The death-rate during the year was 20·21 per thousand of the population, and the birth-rate 31·59. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	Birth-rate.	*Illegitimate birth-rate.*	*Death-rate.*
1923	37·44	70·1	37·11 per 1,000
1924	32·91	68·24	29·54 „ „
1925	34·85	70·92	29·46 „ „
1926	31·32	68·83	29·62 „ „
1927	31·59	66·81	20·21 „ „

The death-rate is the lowest for the last decade, and the rate of infant mortality was less by 36 per cent. than during 1926. A notable and gratifying feature is the gradual decrease of uncertified deaths. In 1925 9·4 per cent. of deaths were uncertified, as compared with 5·8 per cent. for 1926 and 4·3 per cent. for 1927. Under the age group 1-5 years the percentage of deaths was 14·4 per cent. of the total number of deaths. The rate of infant mortality for the past five years is as follows :—

	Infant deaths per 1,000 births.
1923	371
1924	298
1925	312
1926	314
1927	201

The central clinic of the Infant Welfare League continues to do useful work. At least two Parochial Medical Officers, of their own volition, attend infants free of charge, and judging by the numbers seen by them their efforts meet with enthusiastic response. There were entered at the clinic 283 infants during the year. Of this number 51 died, syphilis being accountable for 35·2 per cent. of the number of deaths. The clinic, however, is hampered by lack of adequate funds, which consist at present of a grant of £150 a year from the Treasury and one of £100 a year from the Saint Michael's Vestry. Private donations during the year amounted to £17 10s.

The following table gives the principal causes of death, as compiled from the returns made under the Registration of Deaths Act :—

Causes.	*Actual number of deaths.*	*Rate per 1,000 of total mortality.*	*Rate per 1,000 of estimated population.*
Fevers:—			
Enteric	64	18	0·38
Malaria	63	18	0·38
Other (except puerperal) ...	—	—	—
Bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhœa, and enteritis.*	369	109	2·2
Pneumonia and bronchitis† ...	262	77	1·6
Kidney diseases	174	51	1·0
Phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis.	176	51	1·0
Diseases peculiar to early infancy	247	73	1·5
Old age	108	32	0·6
Diseases of the heart	291	86	1·8
Syphilis‡	461	136	2·8
Diseases of the nervous system...	278	81	1·7

* 85 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.
† 60 „ „ „ „ „ „
‡ 87 „ „ „ „ „ „

The number of deaths from syphilis is 12·7 per cent. less than that recorded during 1926, but the incidence of deaths from that cause is greater than from any other. During the year, auxiliary clinics were established in two of the ten rural parishes and these were supplied with drugs free of charge by the central venereal disease clinic which is attached to the General Hospital and is given an annual grant from general revenue, amounting in 1927 to £1,200.

Malarial fever occurred in epidemic form for the first time in the history of the Island. At the end of the year there had been 1,164 cases reported and 63 deaths. Two sanitary inspectors specially trained in anti-mosquito work lent by the Government of Trinidad did excellent work, including the training of temporary inspectors in field survey and house inspection. Of the total number of cases, 970 occurred in Saint Michael and the Leeward Parishes of Saint James and Saint Peter. The death-rate was 5·4 per cent. and a large proportion of those dying were elderly people. Contrary to ordinary experience the mortality amongst children was small. The epidemic subsided completely after the cessation of the rainy season.

Bacillary dysentery and infantile diarrhoea usually occur in epidemic form during the rainy season, but in 1927 comparatively few cases were seen.

The following table gives the cases of enteric fever notified during the last five years :—

1923	735
1924	762
1925	132
1926	141
1927	318

The value of prophylactic inoculation is slowly being realized and it is this method of prevention more than to any very definite improvement in sanitary conditions that the incidence of this disease is gradually lessening.

Five cases of leprosy were notified during the year and five other cases sought admission to the leper asylum voluntarily. Seventeen patients were conditionally discharged during the year. It is hoped that in the future it will be possible to make more adequate provision for the care of discharged patients than is at present possible. In more than one case recently ex-patients have sought re-admission on account of destitution. A scheme for the assistance of discharged patients is at present under consideration by the local branch of the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association. At the end of the year there were 141 patients at the asylum.

The Colony is still without the services of a Chief Medical Officer, but a recent enactment has made provision for such an appointment and of the appointment as well of a Chief Sanitary Officer, both under the direct control of the Central Government. It is hoped that reform in public health matters will be greatly facilitated by the filling of these new posts with whole-time officers of experience. For the time being the medical officers employed by the Vestries are part-time salaried officers whose duties consist broadly of bi-weekly visits to the parochial almshouse and attendance upon outdoor paupers whose names are entered on the list of poor.

IX.—EDUCATION.

1. The schools of the Island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, almost entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are controlled, however, by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

2. There are three grades of schools recognised by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 129 in 1927; second-grade, six in number, five for boys and one for girls; and three first-grade schools—Harrison College and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. Harrison College and Queen's College are situated in Bridgetown, the Lodge School in the parish of Saint John. The Lodge School is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. At this School attend many girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution. The elementary schools are annually classified as first, second, or third class schools according to the standard of efficiency attained.

3. The number of children on the school registers in 1927 was 22,732 and the average attendance 14,649, which, notwithstanding the temporary closing of several schools owing to the malaria epidemic, shows an increase over the two previous years.

4. Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, a Barbadian, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academical ranks in the several Faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for

three years. The College buildings were destroyed by fire in May, 1926, but provision has been made for carrying on its courses until restoration can be effected.

5. The total grant for Education purposes exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls in 1927 was £46,148, of which £1,284 was the cost of office staff, etc.; £8,660 grants to first and second grade schools, £692 for University education, and £35,038 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses.

6. Of the £35,038 allocated to elementary schools, the cost of salaries of teachers amounted to £28,103. The total fees collected from elementary pupils for the year was £1,905. It was decided during the year to abolish fees payable by pupils at elementary schools, and education at these institutions is now free.

7. School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools.

8. Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (1924-31), 12 apprentices completed their first year's, 12 their second year's, and 10 their third year's course. The course of training lasts from three to five years, according to the trade chosen, but probably neither this system nor the modicum of manual training obtainable at some of the schools is at present of more than ordinary benefit. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is left entirely to the assistance of men engaged in work themselves and is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc., during working hours. Masters and apprentices are paid from public funds allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. a year. The whole question of technical training in the schools is under review by the Board of Education. The aptitude of the Barbadian as a skilled worker is abundantly in evidence, and it is by the development of this feature that he can hope to advance if, as may easily be the case, he should some day meet with disappointment in securing employment in Barbados of a kind sufficient to place him on a higher social plane than that from which, in the peculiar circumstances of life in his over-populated country, he may otherwise find it difficult to emerge. For the present the education system provides for each succeeding vacant junior clerkship in the Public Service a comparatively large number of well-educated candidates of whom some have reached to the highest educational standards attainable locally and many have for considerable periods been unsuccessful in obtaining clerical appointments.

9. The three first-grade schools enter candidates for the Oxford and Cambridge Higher Certificates, School Certificate, and Lower Certificate Examinations, as well as for the Cambridge Local. The second-grade schools enter for the Junior Cambridge Local School Certificate Examinations.

10. The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912 eighty-seven teachers, fifty-three male and thirty-four female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, sixty-seven (thirty-six male and thirty-one female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant from the Government of £450. The question for creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education. Proposals for the adoption of a scheme for the medical and dental inspection of school children had not been finalised at the close of the year, and the details of these proposals have yet to be developed. At the Boys Industrial School and the Girls Reformatory the number of inmates was 142 and 29 respectively. During the year, the Salvation Army undertook the after-care of youths and girls on discharge from these institutions, providing them with temporary accommodation, finding them employment when possible, and keeping in subsequent touch with them. Provision to meet the actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Salvation Army in connection with the scheme has now been included in the Colonial Estimates. In addition to school and religious instruction, boys are taught certain crafts, including carpentry, tailoring, and masonry, and are given some instruction in agriculture and the care of animals. Under the instruction of a Seamstress Matron, girls at the Reformatory make all the clothing required at the institution, and classes are held in plain and fancy work. During the year, cooking was added to the curriculum.

The health at both institutions has been good.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The whole Island of Barbados is fully developed and occupied. There are no waste lands. The total area of the Colony is 106,470 acres. Records respecting the size and numbers of holdings are not available. There are but 46 acres under forest timber. For many years the trees in this area have been protected by statute. The geological structure and surface features of Barbados were interestingly described in 1890 by Messrs. Harrison and Jukes Brown, who prepared also the only geological map of the Island. No further geological survey, however, is contemplated.

XI.—LABOUR.

Notwithstanding the emigration which takes place annually to Cuba and other West Indian islands there is an abundant supply of labour for the requirements of the Colony. Employment is offered chiefly on plantations and sugar factories, but a considerable number also work on the wharves and in the coaling business. There is no immigration of labour into the Colony.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Fifty-one Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year 1927, of which the undermentioned are of special interest :—

1927-2.—The Saint Michael Parish Girls' School Loan Act, 1927.

1927-4.—An Act to provide for the celebration of the Tercentenary of the first Settlement of Barbados by setting apart a day to be observed as a public holiday.

1927-6.—The expulsion of Undesirables Act 1927.

1927-23.—The Mosaic Disease (Eradication) Act 1927.

1927-39.—The Department of Science and Agriculture (Amendment) Act 1927 (No. 2). (Creating the posts of Entomologist £1,000 per annum and Veterinary Officer £500-£600 by £25 per annum).

1927-44.—The Police (Amendment) Act 1927. (Relating to Police Pensions).

D. R. STEWART,
Colonial Secretary.

COLONIAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE,
BARBADOS.
18*th October*. 1928.

(3711—21) Wt. 21209—1666 625 2/29 P. St. G. 7/8

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BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1928—29.

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HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY.

1. Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles with a population at the end of 1928 of 167,953. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

2. Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the island in great numbers.

3. The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way

to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonising expedition, which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629, in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the island.

4. In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognising the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle, and himself, but in 1652 the island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

5. At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663 and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force, and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

6. Barbados claims, by its natural and climatic conditions, to be the healthiest of all the West Indian islands, and is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies; while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find in it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The island during this time

gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his " Historical Geography of the British Colonies " has this to say about Barbados :—

> " Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics. . . . The history of the island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

7. Unlike most of the other West Indian islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine Members and a House of Assembly of twenty-four Members elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage. The Executive functions of the Government are vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be appointed by His Majesty the King, together with one Member of the Legislative Council and four Members of the Assembly nominated by the Governor. The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the Members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

8. The island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

I.—GENERAL.

The first meeting of the West Indies Standing Conference, at which attended representatives from all the West Indian Colonies, British Guiana, and Bermuda, was opened by the Governor in the Chamber of the House of Assembly on 24th January. The opening function was attended by the President and Members of the Legislative Council, the Speaker and Members of the General Assembly, Mr. Geoffrey Evans, Principal of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Mr. G. Huxley of the Empire Marketing Board, the Members of the Congress of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and of the West Indian Press Conference then meeting in Barbados. The occasion also was honoured by the presence of the Captain and officers of H.M.S. *Durban*. The Conference sat on seven days and adopted the following resolutions for consideration by the Governments of the respective Colonies :—

I.

Empire Marketing Board.

THAT this Conference has listened with deep interest to the address delivered this morning by Mr. Huxley on the work of the Empire Marketing Board, and records its thanks to Mr. Huxley for his address.

THAT the Conference records its thanks to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies and to the Empire Marketing Board for sending a representative to this Conference.

FURTHER, that the Conference highly appreciates the work and efforts of the Empire Marketing Board as explained by Mr. Huxley, and expresses the hope that their efforts will continue and expand.

II.

Penny Postage.

THAT this Conference records its opinion that penny postage among the Conference Colonies should be reintroduced as soon as is practicable.

III.

Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement.

THAT this Conference records its appreciation of the generous interpretation of the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement by the Canadian Government in supplying the fleet of steamships whose recent advent to West Indian waters is much appreciated. The Conference also expresses its intention of doing everything possible to develop those mutual trade relations which have now been facilitated through the advent of these steamers.

IV.

West Indian Customs.

WHEREAS it is in the opinion of the Colonies represented at this Conference that the development of their inter-Colonial and overseas trade would be advanced by greater uniformity in and improvement of the laws and regulations relating to Customs procedure and Customs duties ;

AND WHEREAS it appears that further measures of revenue protection are required and can be devised ;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Jamaica be invited to ask Mr. Barton, Collector-General of Jamaica, to continue the preparation of the groundwork for a Customs Conference to be held in the year 1931 for the purpose of discussing the proposals ;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governments concerned be invited to supply Mr. Barton with any information on the subject in such form as he may require, and that he in turn supply such information on the subject as may be asked for by the respective Governments.

V.

West Indian Shipping.

WHEREAS a draft Bill concerning the control of merchant shipping is being prepared by Mr. Barton, President of the Marine Board of Jamaica, for submission to the Government of that island ;

AND WHEREAS it appears that the contents of the said draft may form the basis of uniformity of practice in the matter throughout the Colonies represented at this Conference ;

AND WHEREAS the views of the said Colonies have not yet been submitted to Mr. Barton ;

BE IT RESOLVED that each of the Governments of the said Colonies be requested to supply any information on the subject which such Government may deem desirable to be included in the said draft to Mr. Barton at an early date ;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Government of Jamaica be invited to ask Mr. Barton to prepare a draft Bill embodying the said information as a basis for criticism with a view to preparing for introduction in each Colony a Bill embodying so much of the provisions of the final draft as may be approved by the shipping and mercantile authorities in any such Colony either after correspondence or, if necessary, in conference.

VI.

Trade Commissioner Service in the United Kingdom.

WHEREAS it is the opinion of this Conference that a Trade Commissioner service in London would be to the benefit of the Conference Colonies ;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Empire Marketing Board and the West India Committee be asked to consider and prepare at the earliest possible moment, for submission to the various Governments, a scheme for such a service, which with their organization and experience they are eminently fitted to do.

VII.

Trade Commissioner Service in Canada.

THAT in the opinion of this Conference it is desirable to establish a Trade Commissioner service for the Conference Colonies in the Dominion of Canada, and that the Associated West Indian Chambers of Commerce be invited to prepare a scheme for this purpose for submission to the Governments concerned.

VIII.

West Indian University.

WHEREAS it is the opinion of this Conference that it is of high importance that the Conference Governments should consider further the desirability of establishing a West Indian University ;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Sir James Currie and Mr. Sedgwick be asked to prepare a Report on the preliminary steps which should be taken to the above end in a form which will enable the Conference Governments to consider the subject on practical lines.

IX.

Film Quota.

WHEREAS it is desirable to encourage the display of British films ;

BE IT RESOLVED that it be recommended to the Governments of the Conference Colonies to pass legislation, if and when practicable, which will provide for a proportion of British films to be exhibited in the moving picture theatres of the Colonies ;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Government of Trinidad, as most conveniently situated for the purpose, be requested to undertake the drafting and circulation of legislation to give effect to a quota system.

X.

Agricultural Co-operation.

THAT this Conference having heard an address from Mr. G. Evans, Principal of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, desires to express its conviction of the need of greater co-operation between the Agricultural Departments of the Conference Colonies, and recommends that each of the Governments of the Conference Colonies should appoint its Director of Agriculture, or failing him an Agricultural Officer, to attend a meeting to be held at an early date under the Chairmanship of the Principal of the Imperial College, with a view to devising means for co-ordinating local programmes of agricultural and veterinary research work, avoiding over-lapping between the Agricultural Departments of the various Colonies, and maintaining close touch between the local Departments and the Imperial College.

XI.

Vote of Thanks to Mr. Evans and the Imperial College.

THAT the Conference records its appreciation of the services to the Conference of Mr. Evans, Principal of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, and expresses its thanks to the Chairman and Governors of the College for permitting Mr. Evans to attend.

XII.

Cable and News Services.

THAT this Conference after listening to a statement from the Chairman of the Committee of Inspection of the Eastern Telegraph Company expresses the hope that substantial improvements in cable and wireless communications in the West Indies will result ;

THAT in the opinion of this Conference it is very desirable that the Press news sent to the West Indies shall consist of matters of interest to the West Indies, and more particularly Imperial, Parliamentary, and other news ; and

FURTHER, that one of the effects of the new control will be a substantial reduction in Press and ordinary rates.

XIII.

Migration.

THAT this Conference endorses the proposals made for the establishment of an organization to serve the interests of West Indians in Cuba, whether by an extension of the existing Jamaican organization or otherwise, and that the Legislatures of the Colonies concerned be invited to consider the desirability of making such joint provision as may be considered necessary for the establishment and maintenance of such an organization.

THAT the Governments of the Colonies concerned be invited to consider, if they have not already done so, the enactment of legislation on the lines of the Jamaica law, establishing in respect of emigrants to such foreign countries as may be prescribed a permit system, including the establishment of a fund for defraying the cost of relief of destitute West Indians in foreign countries and the cost of their repatriation in certain cases.

THAT such of the Colonies concerned as may not already have done so should be asked to take into consideration the advisability of adjusting their respective laws regulating the carriage of passengers on ships so as to ensure an adequate restriction of numbers both as regards inward and outward passengers.

XIV.

West Indian Sugar Industry.

THAT the Conference expresses its concern at the serious present outlook for the sugar industry in these Colonies, and urges upon the Imperial Government that immediate steps be taken to increase the preference afforded Empire sugars in Great Britain as the only immediately available means of reducing the heavy loss to producers and assisting them to tide over the present crisis.

FURTHER, that the Conference urges the Governments of the Colonies in which sugar is a principal export to place before His Majesty's Government at the earliest possible moment a full statement of the situation as affecting their respective Colonies, setting out minimum average costs of production and explaining the extent of the losses likely to accrue under present conditions.

XV.

Constitution of Conference.

THAT Sir Edward Davson continue Chairman of the Conference until a new Chairman be appointed.

THAT the sub-title of the Conference be altered to "The Standing Conference of British Guiana, British Honduras, the Bahama Islands, Bermuda, and the British West Indian Islands."

THAT the Secretary of State for the Colonies be requested to continue the existing arrangements as regards the Secretary to the Conference as a temporary measure and until such time as other arrangements may be made.

THAT the number of representatives of the Leeward Islands on the Conference be increased to four, and that the fourth representative be chosen by the Government of Montserrat.

THAT the fourth sentence of paragraph 8 (a) of the Report of the West Indian Conference of 1928 be amended to read as follows :—

> "We therefore recommend that the Secretary should give the various Governments at least six months' notice of the date and place of meetings, requesting them at the same time to submit within three months resolutions on any subjects which they wish placed upon the Agenda."

XVI.

Health and Hygiene.

Whereas it is the opinion of this Conference that improved sanitary and housing conditions, especially among the poorer classes, are highly desirable and deserve the earnest attention of the Governments of the Conference Colonies ;

Be it resolved that this Conference respectfully requests the Secretary of State for the Colonies to make representations to the Governments, with a request that they should give the matter speedy and adequate consideration, and that inquiry be made as to the feasibility of arranging for a visit to as many of the Conference Colonies as possible of an expert authority on Tropical Sanitation and Hygiene to advise the several Governments as to the most practicable steps towards the early improvement of existing conditions.

XVII.

West Indian Currency.

That this Conference recommends the continued consideration by the Conference Colonies of the question of the establishment of a West Indian currency system, and suggests the desirability of enquiry as to the possibility of the amalgamation of the Government note issues of the various Colonies into a common note issue, the making legal tender in these Colonies of the Bank of England notes, and the exploring of the possibilities of the closer association of the West Indian currency with that of the Dominion of Canada ; and that the Secretary of State be asked to assist in instituting enquiries on the subject.

XVIII.

Aviation.

That this Conference approves of the Report of the West Indian Air Transport Committee on the opportunities for Civil Air Transport in the West Indies, and urges that continued attention be paid both by the Imperial and local Governments to the development of aviation in these Colonies and the establishment of British rather than foreign services in their waters.

Further, that the Conference expresses appreciation of the work of the West Indian Aviation Committee, and urges that it continue to watch and further the interests of the Colonies concerned.

XIX.

Rhodes Scholarships.

Resolved that this Conference desires to express its unanimous protest against the private Bill introduced or about to be introduced in the Imperial Parliament relative to the Rhodes Trust, which if accepted would result in the thwarting of the definite intention of the creator of the Trust and make it possible for the scholarships devised by the will of the late Cecil John Rhodes of the Colonies of Jamaica and Bermuda to be seriously imperilled, and that a copy of this resolution be immediately cabled to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

XX.

Selection of Representatives.

That this Conference recommends that representatives should be, as far as possible, members of their respective Legislatures or Governments.

2. Among the many matters discussed, the one of most immediate importance was the position of the West Indian Sugar Industry, the outlook respecting which, owing to increased world production and consequent low market prices, was extremely unsatisfactory. Representations on the subject were made to the Imperial Government with a view to securing such assistance as would enable the Colonies concerned to tide over their present difficulties and to withstand more easily the effect of world competition. Emerging as a paramount feature from the discussions which took place at the Conference was a gratifying spirit of co-operation and an earnest desire for the attainment of unity in all matters of common interest. The West Indies Conference was preceded by the Convention of the Associated Chambers of Commerce, a body composed of representatives from each of the West Indian Colonies. At the Convention matters of mutual interest and concern were discussed in the light of conditions of domestic and foreign trade. The opportunity was also taken of holding a Conference—the first of its kind—of representatives of the West Indian Press.

3. An event of commercial importance was the inauguration of the Canadian-West Indian mail service by the Canadian National Steamships. The first of these vessels to arrive, viz., the *Lady Nelson*, on the 24th of December, 1928, brought to the Colony an official party of visitors representative of Canadian Government and commercial interests, whose presence provided a much appreciated opportunity for discussion of questions affecting West Indian trade with Canada. The regularity and general excellence of the service since conducted has provided great satisfaction. The fact that the new steamers now calling at Barbados are three in number instead of two has led to increased employment of Barbadian seamen.

4. The general elections of members of the House of Assembly were held on the 5th November for the election of 24 representatives. Two members of the old Assembly did not seek re-election. Fourteen members were returned unopposed and there were contested elections in five of the twelve constituencies. The new Assembly thus consisted of 21 old members and three new members, one old member having lost his seat. The total number of persons whose names were included in the electoral rolls at the time of the election was 3,588. The number registered as voters in the districts where contested elections occurred was 1,715 of whom approximately two-thirds exercised their right to vote. The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 5 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 13 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last census returns.

5. The export trade of the Colony lies solely in sugar and allied products, and, in order to maintain output and prevent depreciation of plant values, continued and careful investigation of the problems connected with the production of new seedling sugar-cane varieties is maintained, and important observations have been made which may lead to the institution of new methods promising material improvement in the technique of seedling production. Through the courtesy of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, several varieties of sugar-cane from Java, Hawaii, and India have been introduced for use whenever desirable in hybridization work and for comparison with local varieties. All imported varieties were first subjected to the very strict and efficient quarantine system of the United States Department of Agriculture.

6. The final yield trials in respect of new seedling canes, produced in recent years, revealed a variety which under the climatic conditions of the sugar-cane crop of 1926–28 proved superior in yield of sugar per acre to all other varieties grown in the island. This variety is being given a trial by the majority of sugar-planters. Other varieties of outstanding merit have also been produced.

7. Attention has been directed towards the control of the two major local sugar-cane pests, namely, the moth or stalk-borer *Diatraea saccharalis*, Fabr., and the root-borer *Diaprepes Abbreviatus*, Linn.

8. Biological control is being attempted in the case of *Diatraea*, by mass production and liberation in the cane-fields of the egg parasite *Trichogramma minutum* (Riley).

9. Sugar-cane mosaic disease was the only sugar-cane disease of economic importance occurring during the year. The method adopted of inspecting cane-fields, removing and destroying all

diseased stools found, and of supplying healthy cane cuttings to sugar-cane planters in diseased areas, has so far given satisfactory results.

10. A series of manurial experiments for sugar-cane also has been commenced by the Department of Agriculture.

11. The possibilities of the application of the Zeiss Refractometer in the control of vacuum-pan boiling in sugar manufacture were investigated during the year and demonstrations of the scientific control of pan-boiling by means of this instrument have since been undertaken. In addition to the investigation of the scientific control of vacuum-pan boiling in sugar manufacture and to the planning of sugar-cane manurial plots, the Department of Agriculture has been conducting research work in the clarification of sugar-cane juice and the ash content of sugar-cane juice in relation to yield.

12. With the end in view of instituting a soil advisory system, a beginning has been made in the collection of data for this purpose by soil survey.

13. Attention has also been paid in this Division to the preparation of synthetic farmyard manure.

14. The Department of Agriculture has been made responsible on a temporary basis for the polarization of sugar and molasses, hitherto conducted privately on behalf of the buyers and sellers of sugar. A not inconsiderable addition to general revenue is thus being obtained.

15. As a secondary industry the production of cotton has been of importance to the Colony, but at the end of 1927 it had been almost completely ruined by the infestation of the pink bollworm of cotton. A very small area remained under cotton in 1928, and the greater portion of this was abandoned early in the year.

16. With the object in view of effecting a control of the pink bollworm, a close season of at least one year's duration was ordered to take effect from the 1st of July, 1928.

17. In addition to organizing a campaign of destruction of alternate hosts of pink bollworm, inaugurating measures for thorough cleaning up of old cotton fields and for instituting an efficient system of disinfecting imported cotton seed, endeavour is being made to introduce, through the Imperial Bureau of Entomology, parasites of pink bollworm which are said to exist elsewhere.

18. Increased interest has been taken in the cultivation of tobacco as a subsidiary crop, and the initial stages of a series of experiments in respect of tobacco varieties and culture and leaf-curing have been undertaken.

19. A collection of locally-grown varieties of sweet potatoes has been made and their characters studied. A collection of varieties, representing some of the most important sweet potato growing

countries has been introduced. A comparison of local and imported varieties is being made by extensive yield trials ; and the production of new varieties, with desirable characters, by raising seedlings is in view.

20. A Veterinary Officer was added to the staff of the Department at a late stage in the year.

21. At the beginning of the hurricane season in July, 1928, arrangements were made whereby the masters of ships travelling in eastern Caribbean waters were asked to report by wireless telegraph the occurrence of abnormal weather conditions in these waters. Arrangements were made also whereby such reports from ships as well as reports of the existence of abnormal weather conditions at Barbados indicating the presence of cyclonic disturbance in the eastern Caribbean would be communicated by wireless telegraph to islands and ships west and north of Barbados. These arrangements proved satisfactory and useful in the case of the severe West Indian hurricane of the 11th–13th September, 1928. Information respecting the existence of a cyclonic disturbance centred east-north-east of Barbados was received in the Colony during the night of the 10th September, and frequent messages indicating the passage of a hurricane to the north of Barbados during the 11th September were broadcasted from the Colony, thereby giving timely warnings of its approach to the Leeward Islands and the Greater Antilles.

22. Towards the relief of sufferers from the hurricane, the sum of £5,931 19*s.* 2*d.* was raised in the Colony by private subscription, and in addition gifts of clothing were forwarded.

23. A not inconsiderable earth tremor was experienced on 26th September, 1928. Earthquakes in Barbados have been extremely rare, and the occurrence, although responsible for some excitement and apprehension, caused little material damage.

24. The total rainfall for the year, measured at 141 stations, was 57.21 inches, or 3.32 inches below the average for the 60 years ended 31st December, 1927, which was 60.53 inches.

25. In December the new Tercentenary Ward of the General Hospital was opened by the Governor. The building, intended for paying patients, is a two-storeyed one consisting of 12 rooms and a surgery fitted with all modern conveniences. The inclusive cost of this new and important addition to the General Hospital was £10,437, of which £6,953 were contributed from public funds and £3,484 from private sources. Persons domiciled in Barbados who are admitted to the ward as paying patients are charged at the rate of 12*s.* 6*d.* a day, and others at the rate of £1 5*s.* 0*d.* a day. For the provision of the funds necessary for the erection of the ward, other than those provided from general revenue, the Colony is

indebted to Mr. James F. Inniss, Mr. Joshua Baeza, and Mrs. Linda A. Pilgrim. The legislative grant to the General Hospital amounted to £17,435, and in addition a sum of £200 was granted to the Trustees and Directors for dispensing medicines for Government institutions. The total revenue for the year was £20,174 and the expenditure £20,573.

26. The first aeroplane to arrive in the Colony from oversea landed at 11 a.m. on the 29th March. It was piloted by Captain William Lancaster, R.A.F., who left Martinique for Barbados at 5.45 a.m. on that day.

27. The following naval ships visited the Colony :—

H.M.S. *Despatch* on the 11th April, 1928.
H.M.S. *Colombo* on the 12th April, 1928.
H.M.S. *Heliotrope* on the 13th April, 1928.
Non-magnetic Yacht *Carnegie* on the 14th September, 1928.
Swedish Cruiser *Fylgia* on the 17th December, 1928.
H.M.S. *Durban* on the 23rd January, 1929.
American Naval Training Ship *Annapolis* on the 23rd February, 1929.
H.M. Canadian Ship *Champlain* on the 13th March, 1929.

28. In Barbados the administration of local affairs is vested in parochial authorities and boards, mainly independent of administrative control, which receive from the Central Government either grants-in-aid for specific purposes or the funds necessary for the conduct of public institutions. Their operations are directed mainly towards the maintenance of health and highways as well as in the provision of adequate means of sustenance for the poor. Parochial revenue amounted collectively during the year to £135,801 and expenditure to £132,645. The total cost of poor relief was £75,838, of which £38,779 was raised and expended by parochial authorities. Special grants from general revenue to the Parishes for highways purposes amounted to £12,350 in excess of those for which the law provides, and the total expended by Parochial Commissioners was £34,827.

29. No changes have occurred in currency. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation, and British silver is legal tender to an unlimited amount. There is in addition a dollar paper currency issued by the banks, the exchange value being fixed at $4.80 to the pound sterling.

30. British imperial standard weights and measures are everywhere employed.

II.—FINANCE.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

1. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue. £	*Expenditure.* £
1924–25	504,696	364,530
1925-26	404,132	394,249
1926–27	387,462	418,711
1927–28	414,884	481,252
1928–29	441,732	459,626

In these amounts are included receipts and payments on account of loans. If these amounts are deducted, the ordinary revenue for the year 1928–29 was £419,674, as compared with £413,172 for 1927–28, and the ordinary expenditure £437,568, compared with £479,540. Included in the figures are several large items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve funds set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1929, was £31,024.

Special Funds.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...	46,807	3	8
Water Boat Renewal Fund	10,257	8	8
Red Cross Fund	1,601	15	3
Public Officers Security Fund	5,328	5	10
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	23,135	8	4
Road Reconstruction Fund	7,645	17	10
	£194,775	19	7

Revenue.

2. The revenue for 1928–29 shows an increase of £26,848 over that of the previous year, the principal heads showing increases being "Reimbursements" £29,703 ; "Water Works" £2,393 ; "Income Tax" £14,999 ; while the largest decreases occur under "Customs" £12,487 ; "Post Office" £1,148 ; "Interest" £1,836 ; "Special Receipts" £1,191, and "Railway" £2,675. The increase under all heads was £48,108, while the decreases totalled £21,260. The decreases are due generally to fluctuations in business.

Expenditure.

3. The expenditure for 1928–29, excluding loan disbursements, was £437,568, a decrease of £41,972 as compared with the previous year. The total expenditure for the year was £21,625 less than in 1927–28.

4. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads "Police," "Education," "Medical," and "Water Works." The expenditure under these heads was as follows :—

	£		*Compared with* 1927–28. £
Police	45,681,	a decrease of ...	600
Education	54,350,	an increase of ...	6,830
Medical	41,926,	a decrease of ...	573
Water Works ...	51,619,	a decrease of ...	12,371
	£193,576		

The total expenditure on these four departments, £193,576, represents 44 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

5. The reduction in "Waterworks" expenditure is due to the completion of the Belle Pumping Station. Special expenditure on restoration of roads amounted to £18,682 and in the anti-malaria campaign £4,554. The question as to the proportion of road charges involved in the work of reconstruction now being carried out which may properly be allocated to loan funds has yet to be decided, but the suggestion put forward for consideration by the Legislature is that 50 per cent. of the expenditure should be so allocated.

6. As compared with the previous year there was a net decrease in expenditure of a sum of £21,625.

PUBLIC DEBT.

7. The Public Debt at the 31st March, 1929, was £610,000, the Sinking Fund on that date being £318,242 as compared with £307,759 in 1928. The accumulated sinking fund for the Water Works Loan of £375,000 was, at the end of the financial year, potentially full, and provision for further accretions to the fund has been discontinued. The Loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1929, were as follows :—

Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.*			*Amount outstanding.*			*Sinking Fund.*			*Date Redeemable.*
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	
Water Works Loan Act	375,000	0	0	375,000	0	0	268,248	10	11	15th March, 1942.
Public Works Loan Act	92,000	0	0	26,000	0	0	24,362	7	10	£6,000 June to October, 1929. £6,000 October, 1930. £14,000 November, 1932.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	7,283	9	2	£11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Act, 1917, Special Loan Act, 1917 (No. 2), Special Loan Act, 1920, and Special Loan (Amendment) Act, 1922, Special Loan Act, 1922	147,000	0	0	147,000	0	0	18,347	8	3	£35,000 August, 1964. £30,000 February, 1965. £40,000 March, 1968 £25,000 April, 1969. £17,000 May, 1969.
Public Loan Act, 1928 (No. 28)	25,000	0	0	25,000	0	0	158	14	7	October, 1975.
	£676,000	0	0	£610,000	0	0	£318,400	10	9	

GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK.

8. On the 31st December, 1928, there were 11,776 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £577,089. The value of the invested funds was £723,850. The figures for 1927 were : deposits £603,954, invested funds £729,088, and number of depositors 11,970. The number of depositors shows a decrease of 194, and the total amount to their credit a decrease of £26,865, the amount by which the withdrawals for the year exceeded the deposits.

It will be noticed that the invested funds of the Bank were only decreased by £5,238, the remainder of the excess of withdrawals having been met from the interest received from these funds.

The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

SUGAR INDUSTRY AGRICULTURAL BANK.

9. This Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows :—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman, ex officio, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1929, after paying income tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan, and salaries, etc., amounted to £6,556.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1929, was £190,568, as compared with £184,011 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £1,840, as compared with £1,968 for the previous year.

Loans and interest outstanding at 31st May, 1929, which are secured as a first lien against the land of the several borrowers, are due as under :—

	Loans.			*Interest.*		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1921 loans due from 13 borrowers	23,581	15	1½	737	12	4
1924 ,, ,, 1 borrower	450	0	0	27	0	0
1925 ,, ,, 4 borrowers	5,906	17	2	305	12	0½
1926 ,, ,, 8 ,,	6,306	8	2	283	3	1½
1927 ,, ,, 2 ,,	600	0	0	64	15	6½
1928 ,, ,, 13 ,,	5,390	6	7	75	16	11½
1929 ,, ,, 70 ,,	49,952	19	7½	697	9	8
	£92,188	6	8	£2,191	9	8

III.—PRODUCTION.

AGRICULTURE.

1. *Sugar.*—According to Customs returns for the year 1928, $58,679^{10}$ tons of vacuum-pan crystals, 3.979^{14} tons of muscovado sugar, and 7,229,181 wine gallons of molasses, equal at 110 gallons per puncheon to 65,720 puncheons of molasses of all grades, were exported. The value of these exports, £1,163,938, was made up as follows :—

		Value.	
Sugar.	*Tons.*	£	£
Dark Crystals	$58,679^{10}$	821,513	
Muscovado	$3,979^{14}$	53,726	
			£875,239
	$62,659^{4}$		
Molasses.	*Gallons.*		
Fancy	6,199,477	271,227	
Choice	481,555	14,045	
Vacuum	548,149	3,427	
			288,699
	7,229,181		£1,163,938

The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1924	54,493
1925	65,567
1926	64,431
1927	72,301
1928	78,973

Sugar-cane production as distinct from sugar produced has been as follows :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1924	656,176
1925	772,453
1926	760,525
1927	843,160
1928	913,216

It is estimated that approximately 35,000 acres are under sugar-cane annually.

The average prices obtained for sugar and its by-products are as follows :—

	1924.			*1925.*			*1926.*			*1927.*			*1928.*		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d*	£	*s*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
Sugar, per ton ...	24	10	0	14	10	0	12	5	0	15	5	0	13	19	0
Molasses, per gallon		1	7		1	0			9			11			10
Rum, per gallon ...		2	0		[illegible]	[illegible]		2	1		2	1		1	11½

The value and destination of sugar and molasses shipped from the Colony was as follows :—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	147,485	3,408
Canada	712,977	269,939
Newfoundland	94	24,236
United States of America ...	—	50,988
Holland	2,369	—
Elsewhere	12,314	128

The value of these commodities exported was in the case of sugar more than in 1927 by £59,602, but in the case of molasses less by £137,999.

2. *Cotton.*—The total number of acres planted in cotton for the season 1927–28 was 371, and the approximate total yield was 35,000 lb. seed cotton, from which 14,195 lb. of lint was obtained.

The following is a comparative statement covering the last two years :—

	Crop of 1926–27.	*Crop of 1927–28.*	*Decrease.*
Acres	3,526	371	3,155
Quantity (lint) lb.	187,709	14,195	173,514
Value	£25,810	£1,568	£24,242

The average prices obtained for cotton during the last five years are :—

	Per lb.	
	s.	*d.*
1924	2	1
1925	2	1
1926	2	8½
1927	2	5½
1928	2	3

MINING.

3. A small quantity of manjak is mined and exported. The industry, however, remains undeveloped, and it appears that deposits are not explored or worked to an extent which their occurrence may justify.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

1. The value of the total trade of the Colony as well as that of imports and exports is shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1924	2,556,297	1,858,301	4,414,598
1925	2,296,359	1,421,035	3,717,394
1926	2,155,167	1,287,161	3,442,328
1927	2,300,108	1,603,531	3,903,639
1928	2,349,159	1,531,265	3,880,424

2. The value of goods imported and entered for transhipment was £17,884 more than in 1927. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	£
1924	193,655
1925	225,023
1926	133,966
1927	167,869
1928	185,863

3. Imports during 1928 show an increase over 1927 of £49,051. The increase is due mainly to imports of bags and sacks (£10,383), oilmeal and oilcake (£14,535), flour, wheaten (£21,289), machinery all kinds (£20,738), salted pork (£9,961), tobacco all kinds (£8,050). The articles of imports in which the main decrease occurred were animals, living (£8,717), motor-car tyres (£11,919), cotton manufactures, other (£15,314), rice (£35,909), manures, all kinds (£20,360), oil residue (£18,048).

For the five years prior to 1928 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 28,654 tons. In 1928 the number of tons taken were 26,411. The following figures relate to the export of coal during the last five years :—

	Steamships.	*Tons of coal.*
1924	97	23,258
1925	121	30,895
1926	150	32,702
1927	127	26,786
1928	105	26,411

4. The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin whence comes the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade :—

	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
	%	%	%	%	%
United Kingdom	33·0	36·3	30·9	33·5	35·4
Canada	22·4	20·9	20·5	19·3	20·7
Other parts of the British Empire.	15·1	15·2	18·5	18·5	17·2
United States of America	21·4	18·7	21·6	19·9	17·3
Other Foreign Countries	8·1	8·9	8·5	8·8	9·4

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1928, exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	827,350
Canada	485,110
Other parts of the British Empire	401,560
United States of America	405,094
Other Foreign Countries	218,640

5. Total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, drink, &c.	842,882
Raw Materials	355,053
Manufactured Articles	1,055,231
Miscellaneous	84,588
	£2,337,754
Specie	11,405
	£2,349,159

6. The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and Shoes	9,911	1,571
Butter	5,677	480
Oilmeal (cattle food)	40,262	15,009
Coal	—	34,108
Cornmeal	355	27,529
Fish (salted)	23,387	—
Flour	106,016	22,902
Oats	35,329	5
Manures	4,800	5,115
Salt Beef	960	5,027
Pork	16,894	16,277
Wood (various)	50,239	33,254

7. The total value of exports was £1,531,265, of which £1,226,769 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £304,496 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows :—

	1928.		*1927.*		*1926.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£
Sugar (tons) ...	62,659	875,239	53,106	815,637	45,786	593,819
Molasses (gals.)	7,229,181	288,699	8,258,690	426,698	7,760,334	310,745
Cotton (lb.) ...	14,249	1,680	187,709	20,726	315,192	40,623
Rum (gals.) ...	40,690	3,983	22,425	2,336	18,692	1,947

	1925.		*1924.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Sugar (tons) ...	47,460	686,238	41,339	997,869
Molasses (gals.)...	7,869,275	395,910	5,987,453	524,927
Cotton (lb.) ...	235,911	22,998	431,152	36,113
Rum (gals.) ...	13,292	1,329	12,645	1,370

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 242,260 gallons.

8. The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows :—

	£
Bay Rum	579
Biscuits	23,894
Cotton Seed Meal	4,641
Fruits (tamarind)	3,709
Hides and Skins	8,992
Lime, " building "	5,240
Manjak	1,975
Oils (edible)	696
Vegetables, fresh	4,602

9. The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years :—

	1924.	*1925.*	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	205,921	204,970	247,987	141,078	159,731
Canada	1,182,971	767,619	593,474	1,024,297	923,079
Other parts of British Empire.	83,297	97,001	70,152	76,489	68,453
United States of America.	101,190	54,909	61,756	58,279	59,148
Other Foreign Countries.	17,962	19,895	15,008	11,887	15,698
Stores (ships) ...	—	—	—	976	640
	£1,591,341	£1,114,394	£988,377	£1,313,006	£1,226,749

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as with 1927 are :—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	2.2	—
Canada	—	2.6
Other parts of the British Empire	—	0.3
United States of America	0.4	—
Other Foreign Countries	0.3	—

Competitive conditions favour generally the Dominion of Canada and, although there is a small decrease of 2.6 per cent. which is probably absorbed by the United Kingdom, Canada is still the largest purchaser of both sugar and molasses, the principal domestic products of the island, and Canada most probably will continue to be so. Freight rates, reciprocal trade relations, and marketing conditions are factors all of which tend increasingly to open still further the outlet for Colonial products in the markets of the Dominion, but, while this is so and notwithstanding the higher freights charged in respect of the carriage of goods from the United Kingdom, the distribution of imports shows again improvement in so far as the United Kingdom is concerned.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

SHIPPING.

1. The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,194, with a net tonnage of 1,990,866, as compared with 1,226 vessels with a tonnage of 1,885,346 during the previous year. In addition, six ships of war, five yachts, and one research vessel visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 3,263, while 2,900 were discharged. The estimated amount of money earned during the year as wages by seamen belonging to, and engaging in, the Colony for service of ships was £43,200, as compared with £53,341 for 1927–28.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica, the mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are the Harrison and the Leyland Lines from Liverpool direct and the Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from London fortnightly. The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) run a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados and Central American ports, calling at Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth on the return. The same Company operate the Surinam Line, a three-weekly service from Amsterdam calling at Dover, Madeira, Paramaribo, Demerara, Barbados, Trinidad, Venezuelan ports, Curacao, Haiti, and New York ; when homeward bound, these vessels do not call at Barbados but, in addition to the above-mentioned ports, touch at Boulogne. The Elders and Fyffes Line of steamers make fortnightly sailings from Avonmouth, calling at Barbados. The duration of the voyage from England is about 13 days, the return journey is usually accomplished in 11 days.

The Canadian National Steamships operate a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Bermuda, the Leeward Islands and Saint Lucia. Freight steamers of the same Line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum, £5,000 is paid by Barbados. The freight and passenger service commenced in December, 1928, with the sailing of the s.s. *Lady Nelson* from Halifax, N.S., on the 14th of that month. The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provide a fortnightly freight service between Halifax and Barbados. An irregular service is provided by freighters of the Canadian Transport Company ; these vessels sail from Vancouver, B.C.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Lamport and Holt Line, the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy), and the Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Ocean Service), the first-named calling at Barbados on their voyage between New York and South American ports. Ships of the Aluminium Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados *en route* to British and Dutch Guiana.

RAILWAYS.

2. A light railway 24 miles long runs through the southern Parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £13,670. The actual expenditure including extraordinary outlay was £17,917 and the actual revenue £11,101.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years :—

	1928.	*1927.*	*1926.*
Passengers	94,341	103,653	99,232
Horses...	—	—	—
Mules	—	—	—
Asses	—	—	—
Cows	3	3	2
Calves...	19	14	9
Sheep	14	15	14
Goats and Kids ...	29	19	27
Pigs	44	44	19
Dogs	34	47	35

	1928.			*1927.*			*1926.*		
Goods :—	*T.*	*C.*	*Q.*	*T.*	*C.*	*Q.*	*T.*	*C.*	*Q.*
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses.	16,433	14	0	17,399	13	0	13,125	4	0
Canes	12,889	2	0	11,988	6	0	8,986	2	2
Fuel	231	8	0	311	9	0	234	3	1
Sundries ...	6,452	8	2	8,524	14	2	3,534	14	2
	36,006	12	2	38,224	2	2	25,880	4	1

ROADS.

3. The island is a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of eleven Boards of Highways Commissioners.

Up to ten or fifteen years ago—before the advent of self-propelled vehicles—Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficient provision of funds, and the lack of skilled engineering assistance, led to rapid deterioration of the roads of the island.

As stated elsewhere in this report the island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied ; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 120 miles of main roads and approximately 300 miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use.

The first definite step towards relieving the situation was the passing by the Legislature in 1926 of an Act constituting a Central Road Board with power under certain prescribed conditions to assume control of, and reconstruct, the main roads radiating from Bridgetown. This step was based on a report of a Road Commission appointed by the Governor in 1925. The Commission thus appointed had the assistance of Mr. Maurice Ravenor, M.I.C.E., who estimated that the roads classified as main roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile. He also recommended that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the city of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the Parish of Saint Michael was transferred to the Central Road Board. An additional and urgent task was thus imposed upon the Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926–27, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1928–29, the sum of £74,865 *plus* approximately £22,000 from Parochial funds has been spent on the roads of Saint Michael's Parish.

In addition to the sum of £74,865 mentioned above, a sum of £3,150 was granted to the Board to oil and improve some nine miles of roads in the parish of Christ Church, which had recently been re-surfaced by the Parochial Authorities.

The whole question of expenditure on road reconstruction and maintenance is at present under consideration.

POSTAL, ETC.

4. There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies, and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines :—

Harrison, Elders and Fyffes, Leyland, Royal Netherlands, proceeding to Great Britain, certain West Indian Colonies, Central America, and Colon.

Canadian Nationals, proceeding to St. John, N.B., Halifax, Bermuda, British West Indian Colonies, and British Guiana.

Ocean Dominion, proceeding to St. John, N.B., Halifax, and certain West Indian islands.

Ocean Dominion, proceeding to New York and certain West Indian islands.

Bermuda and West Indies, proceeding to New York and certain West Indian islands.

Lamport and Holt, proceeding to New York and South American ports.

In addition to the above, occasional opportunities offer by steamers of the Booth and other lines for New York.

The number of ships, bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below :—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*	
	1927.	*1928.*	*1927.*	*1928.*
Mails for Barbados	453	498	31	19
Mails from Barbados	440	502	88	61

	1927.	*1928.*
Bags of mail despatched	4,396	5,129
Bags of mail received	11,337	11,680
Bags of mail received in transit ...	3,842	4,585
Registered articles	95,116	96,390
Parcel-post packages	60,287	62,400
Money-orders issued	£9,642	£10,661
Money-orders paid	£81,368	£79,737

The s.s. *Vestris*, of the Lamport and Holt Line, on the voyage from New York to Barbados foundered on the 12th November, 1928, and the following mails for Barbados were lost :—112 bags containing 1,083 registered and ordinary letters and printed matter, 674 parcels, and 15 empty bags ; 1 mail from Rio de Janeiro and 3 bags from Havana, Cuba.

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

JUSTICE.

1. The Statutes of Barbados are, in the main, similar to those of England, and the Superior Courts are presided over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction is vested in a Judge of the Petty Debt Court in Bridgetown and seven Police Magistrates, five of whom in rural districts have jurisdiction in civil matters. From their decisions and judgments there lies an appeal to the Assistant Court of Appeal composed of three Judges. Besides its appellate jurisdiction, this Court possesses limited equitable and probate jurisdiction. The cost of maintaining legal Departments during the year was £12,859.

POLICE.

2. The Police Force, under the command of an Inspector-General who is also Commandant of the Local Forces, consists of 408 officers and men. An efficient Band is attached to the Force. The Inspector-General of Police is charged also with the control of a Fire Brigade consisting of 25 men.

PRISONS.

3. Glendairy Prison, in the Parish of Saint Michael, is the only convict prison. It is divided into two sections, one for each of the sexes, and is a highly efficient and well-conducted institution. Juvenile adult prisoners are classified and segregated from adults, and instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, cement work, baking,

and other crafts. In regard to criminal statistics, prison records for 1928 show a reduction in excess of the number of commitments. A notable feature is the continued diminution in the number of convictions for praedial larceny, an offence which appears to be made singularly easy by prevailing conditions. The following is a comparative statement of convictions for the last three years :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*
Total number of persons committed to prison ...	1,249	831	845
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	43	41	36
Daily average in prison (males)	187	144	125
Daily average in prison (females)	36	24	29
Police Court convictions	10,775	9,839	9,454
Police Court convictions for prædial larceny ...	504	348	270
Convictions by Superior Court	77	50	49
Convictions by Superior Court for prædial larceny...	—	—	—

A scheme for the after-care of discharged prisoners is conducted by the Prison Chaplain and the local branch of the Salvation Army.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

During the financial year 1928–29 a portion of the northern wharf wall next the Careenage was reconstructed. An extension to City Police Magistrates' Courts was made to provide additional accommodation for Clerks' office and magistrates' private rooms.

A Meldrums' incinerator was imported through the Crown Agents and has been erected at the public market.

2. The erection of the high-power pumping station at the Belle Waterworks was completed early in the year. The cost of the building, plant, and new main was approximately £38,000. The building is well designed and constructed and stands as a pleasing and perhaps an outstanding local example of the good workmanship of the Barbadian artisan.

Originally intended for the supplementary provision of supply during dry periods, constant use of the new installation has been made since the time when it was first put into operation. The increased use of the water service by the population generally and the extension of supplies indicate the necessity for the use of the plant in daily support of the main waterworks at Bowmanston. The maximum capacity of the new plant is a million gallons per 24 hours, and approximately half that quantity has been raised daily. At the Bowmanston Works, two new boilers have replaced others which have been in service for over 30 years. At the latter place the engines, which have run for the last 39 years, will in the near future require replacement in order to ensure safety of supply to the high-level districts. No other public works of importance were undertaken during the year. Under the existing system, various branches of Government concerned with construction and maintenance work operate as separate units on independent lines, each having its own distinct and separate arrangements for the performance of requisite services. From the point of view of the

Central Government the system is barely satisfactory in that it may not make always for economy where services of a similar nature are to be carried out. In addition to Government Boards and Departments, the various Vestries and Parochial Authorities work independently of each other in matters of construction, providing separate plant, tools, and materials as required.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The total population on the 31st December, 1928, was estimated to be 167,953. The death-rate during the year was 30.10 per thousand of the population, and the birth-rate 33.76. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	Birth-rate.	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*Death-rate.*
1924	32·91 per 1,000	68·24	25·94 per 1,000
1925	34·85 „ „	70·92	29·46 „ „
1926	31·32 „ „	68·83	29·62 „ „
1927	31·59 „ „	66·81	20·21 „ „
1928	33·76 „ „	65·99	30·10 „ „

The death-rate, after falling to 20.21 per thousand in the preceding year, mounted to 30.10 per thousand, the highest recorded since the year 1923, when it reached the figure of 37.11 per thousand.

The percentage of uncertified deaths fell to 3 per cent. of the total, as compared with 5.8 per cent. for 1926 and 4.3 per cent. for 1927.

Under the age group 1–5 years the percentage of deaths was 52.32 of the total number of deaths. The rate of infant mortality for the past five years is as follows :—

	Infant deaths per 1,000 *births.*
1924	298
1925	312
1926	314
1927	201
1928	331

Malaria.—In the year 1927 the number of cases of malaria recorded amounted to 1,164, of which 63 were fatal.

No less than 1,333 cases of malaria were notified in the month of January, 1929. The disease gradually subsided during the dry season, but re-appeared with the advent of the rains though with diminished intensity.

The total cases notified in 1928 amounted to 2,951, and 94 deaths were attributed to this disease.

Whereas in the previous year and the early part of 1928 the Parish of Saint James was the area of infection, the autumn recrudescence occurred in the Parishes of Saint Michael and Christ Church and more markedly in the last-named.

The following table shows both the number of cases and their parochial distribution :—

Cases of Malaria notified in 1928.

Parish.	*Jan.*	*Feb.*	*March.*	*April.*	*May.*	*June.*	*July.*	*Aug.*	*Sept.*	*Oct.*	*Nov.*	*Dec.*	*Total.*
Saint Michael	58	26	16	8	1	1	1	0	14	17	40	47	229
Christ Church	12	39	21	15	6	0	3	0	65	123	384	350	1,018
Saint George	2	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	7	8	14	38
Saint Philip	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	6	15
Saint John	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	7
Saint James	1,029	179	68	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	0	1.286
Saint Thomas	51	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2	70
Saint Peter	127	56	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	1	187
Saint Lucy	48	35	5	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	93
Saint Joseph	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saint Andrew	7	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
	1,334	353	110	26	9	1	4	2	80	157	455	420	2,951

The Baby Welfare Clinic continues to do good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds, and strictest economy has to be maintained. A medical practitioner attends on Wednesdays to examine and prescribe for sick babies, and is paid £3 6*s*. 8*d*. per month. The Treasury grants £150 a year and the Saint Michael's Vestry £100. Private donations during the year amounted to £23 19*s*. 7½*d*. 384 infants were entered at the clinic during the year (an increase of 101 over the previous year); 88 of these died, congenital syphilis being accountable for 21 of these deaths.

The following table gives the principal causes of death as compiled from the returns made under the Registration of Deaths Act :—

Causes.	*Actual number of deaths.*	*Rate per 1,000 of total mortality.*	*Rate per 1,000 of estimated population.*
Fevers:—			
Enteric	41	8	0·24
Malaria	94	19	0·56
Other (except puerperal) ...	—	—	—
Bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhœa, and enteritis.*	1,155	228	0·7
Pneumonia and bronchitis† ...	321	63	2·0
Kidney diseases	271	53	1·6
Phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis.	203	40	1·2
Diseases peculiar to early infancy	385	76	2·3
Old age	121	24	0·7
Diseases of the heart	371	73	2·2
Syphilis‡	668	132	4·0
Diseases of the nervous system...	363	72	2·2

* 89 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.
† 67 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
‡ 86 ,, ,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

The number of deaths from syphilis was 30 per cent. greater than that recorded in 1927. The Central Venereal Disease Clinic attached to the General Hospital is given an annual grant of £1,200 a year.

The number of deaths from bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhoea, and enteritis, rose from 369 to 1,155. Of these deaths, 89 per cent. were of children under three years of age.

The following table gives the cases of enteric fever notified during the last five years :—

1924	762
1925	432
1926	441
1927	350
1928	194

During the last two years provision for the cost of free inoculation of contacts has been made in the Colonial Estimates.

Seven cases of leprosy were admitted during the year to the Leper Asylum and nine patients were discharged conditionally.

At the end of the year, 130 patients remained at the Asylum. A scheme for the relief of discharged patients was, at the end of the year, still under consideration by the local branch of the Empire Leprosy Relief Association.

The number of inmates at the Mental Hospital at the end of the year was 449.

IX.—EDUCATION.

1. The schools of the island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, almost entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

2. There are three grades of schools recognised by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 129 in 1928; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English Universities. The Cambridge Junior Local or the Lower Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board are also taken by pupils of both second and first grade schools.

3. In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1928 was 23,380 and the average attendance 15,197, increases of 648 and 548 respectively as compared with the figures for 1927. During the year, the system on which head teachers' salaries was based was revised and an incremental system introduced. The schools are now graded according to their average attendance, and the maximum and minimum salaries vary with the grade. A head-teacher may earn, in addition to his salary, a maximum amount of £25 per annum as an Efficiency Grant, the amount being dependent on the efficiency of the school as judged by the inspectors.

4. To the number of second-grade schools have been added the Saint Michael's Second-Grade School for Girls and the Christ Church Girls' Foundation School. The Saint Michael's School is excellently accommodated in a new building erected in 1927 at a cost of £15,000, and opened in 1928. The school now has an attendance of 106 which appears to be steadily increasing. The need for facilities for domestic

science teaching at present exists, and provision for this important work, will, it is hoped, be made in the near future. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1928 was 334 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 197.

5. The three first-grade schools are Harrison College, and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendances at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1928 were 220 and 152 respectively. The Lodge School, in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 97, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. At this school attend a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

6. Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, a Barbadian, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. The College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but provision has been made for carrying on its courses until restoration can be effected. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature has now voted a sum of £5,000.

7. The total grant for Education purposes exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial school for boys and the Reformatory for girls in 1928 was £56,925, of which £1,284 was the cost of office staff, etc.; £13,160 grants to first and second grade schools, £912 for University Education, and £40,855 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses. Of the £40,855 allocated to elementary schools, the cost of salaries of teachers amounted to £30,567, £2,000 having been granted as compensation for loss of school fees, which are no longer collected as elementary education has been made free.

8. School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in 4 schools, while 24 schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work, brush-making, etc.

9. Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (1924–31), 14 apprentices completed their first year's, 11 their second year's, 11 their

third year's, and ten their fourth year's course. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen, but probably neither this system nor the modicum of manual training obtainable at some of the schools is at present of more than ordinary benefit. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is left entirely to the assistance of men engaged in work themselves and is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc., during working hours. Masters and apprentices are paid from public funds, allowances varying from £4 to £8 15*s*. a year. The whole question of technical training in the schools is under review by the Board of Education. The aptitude of the Barbadian as a skilled worker is abundantly in evidence, and it is by the development of this feature that he can hope to advance if, as may easily be the case, he should some day meet with disappointment in securing employment in Barbados of a kind sufficient to place him on a higher social plane than that from which, in the peculiar circumstances of life in his over-populated country, he may otherwise find it difficult to emerge. For the present the education system provides for each succeeding vacant junior clerkship in the Public Service a comparatively large number of well-educated candidates of whom some have reached to the highest educational standards attainable locally and many have for considerable periods been unsuccessful in obtaining clerical appointments.

10. The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were 6 male and 6 female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 89 teachers, 53 male and 36 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 66 (34 male and 32 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant from the Government of £600. The question for creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education. Proposals for the adoption of a scheme for the medical and dental inspection of school children had not been finalised at the close of the year, and the details of these proposals have yet to be developed. .

11. At the Boys' Industrial School and the Girls' Reformatory the number of inmates was 85 and 13 respectively. During the year the Salvation Army undertook the after-care of youths and girls on discharge from these institutions, providing them with temporary accommodation, finding them employment when possible, and keeping in subsequent touch with them. Provision to meet the actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Salvation Army in connection with the scheme has now been included in the Colonial Estimates. In addition to school and religious instruction, boys are taught certain crafts, including carpentry, tailoring, and masonry, and are given some instruction in agriculture and the care of animals. Under the instruction of a Seamstress Matron, girls at the Reformatory make all the clothing required at the institution, and classes are

held in plain and fancy work. During the year, cooking was added to the curriculum.

The health at both institutions has been good.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The whole island of Barbados is fully developed and occupied. There are no waste lands. The total area of the Colony is 106,470 acres. Records respecting the size and numbers of holdings are not available. There are but 46 acres under forest timber. For many years the trees in this area have been protected by statute. The geological structure and surface features of Barbados were interestingly described in 1890 by Messrs. Harrison and Jukes Brown, who prepared also the only geological map of the island. No further geological survey, however, is contemplated.

XI.—LABOUR.

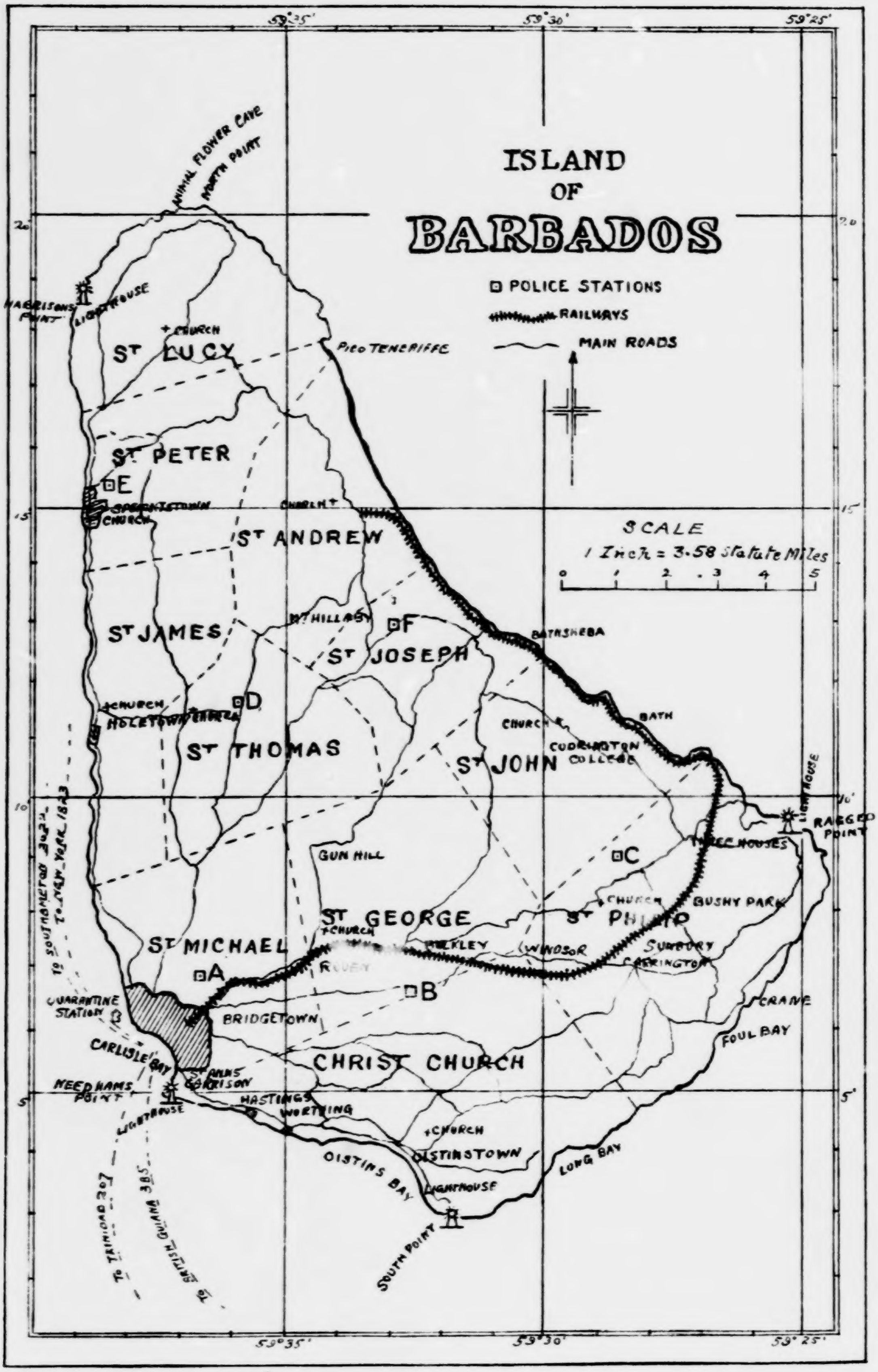
Notwithstanding the emigration which takes place annually to Cuba and other West Indian islands, there is an abundant supply of labour for the requirements of the Colony. Employment is offered chiefly on plantations and sugar factories, but a considerable number also work on the wharves and in the coaling business. There is no immigration of labour into the Colony.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Forty-one Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year 1928, of which the following were of importance :—

1928-1 —The Court of Ordinary (Amendment) Act, 1928.
1928-7 —The Widows and Orphans Pension Act, 1928.
1928-11—The Gaming (Amendment) Act, 1928.
1928-28—The Public Loan Act, 1928.
1928-31—The Cotton Diseases Prevention Act, 1928.
1928-32—The Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1928, No. 2.
1928-35—The Taxation of Motor Vehicles Act, 1928.
1928-39—The Poor Relief Act and Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1928.

27th August, 1929.


ISLAND OF BARBADOS
POLICE STATIONS
RAILWAYS
MAIN ROADS
SCALE
1 Inch = 3.58 Statute Miles
0 1 2 3 4 5
59°35'
59°30'
59°25'
20'
15'
10'
5'
ANIMAL FLOWER CAVE
NORTH POINT
HARRISONS POINT
LIGHTHOUSE
ST LUCY
CHURCH
PICO TENERIFFE
ST PETER
E
SPEIGHTSTOWN
CHURCH
ST ANDREW
ST JAMES
Mt HILLABY
F
ST JOSEPH
BATHSHEBA
CHURCH
HOLETOWN
D
ST THOMAS
BATH
CHURCH
CODRINGTON COLLEGE
ST JOHN
LIGHTHOUSE
RAGGED POINT
THREE HOUSES
C
GUN HILL
ST GEORGE
CHURCH
CHURCH
BUSHY PARK
ST PHILIP
SUNBURY
CARRINGTON
WINDSOR
ST MICHAEL
A
B
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REPORT FOR 1929-30

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History and Geography.

1. Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles with a population at the end of 1929 of 170,391. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

2. Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the island in great numbers.

3. The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way

to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I. granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I. was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629, in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the island.

4. In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle, and himself, but in 1652 the island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

5. At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663 and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force, and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

6. Barbados claims, by its natural and climatic conditions, to be the healthiest of all the West Indian islands, and is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies; while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find in it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December

to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados :—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics. . . . The history of the island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

7. Unlike most of the other West Indian islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine Members and a House of Assembly of twenty-four Members elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage. The Executive functions of the Government are vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be appointed by His Majesty the King, together with one Member of the Legislative Council and four Members of the Assembly nominated by the Governor. The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the Members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

8. The island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

I.—GENERAL.

As a result of world over-production, sugar, the island's staple industry, dropped in price to a level lower than the cost of production. On the 12th February, 1929, a Resolution was passed by the House of Assembly in which the House expressed deep concern at the serious outlook for the sugar industry in the island, and urged that the Imperial Government should take immediate steps to increase the amount of preference afforded Empire sugars on entry into Great Britain, as being the only immediate available means of reducing the heavy loss to producers, and thereby enabling them to continue the cultivation of their lands, provide work for and pay a living wage to the labouring population during the present depression.

2. The terms of this Resolution were at once telegraphed to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

3. Representations having been made by the Governments of other West Indian Colonies in which the cultivation and production of sugar is an important industry, the Secretary of State appointed a Commission to enquire into and report on—

(*a*) the causes of the present depression, the question how far they are temporary, or permanent, and the general outlook for the industry ;

(*b*) the measures, whether by means of research, improvements in cultivation, better organization of production, transport, manufacture, and marketing, or otherwise, which they might consider are required in order to place the industry in the best possible position for the future, and the means by which such measures could be financed and carried into effect ;

(*c*) any measures which may be desirable for the temporary assistance of the industry, for the provision of other employment, or for the relief of distress ;

(*d*) the advisability and feasibility of replacing sugar by alternative crops in any particular areas, and the measures incidental thereto, including any schemes of migration of labourers or land settlements.

4. The Commission, consisting of the Right Honourable Lord Olivier, P.C., K.C.M.G., Chairman, and Mr. D. M. Semple, Commissioners, Mr. G. A. Jones, of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Agricultural Adviser, Mr. Sydney Caine of the Colonial Office, Secretary, and a lady clerk, arrived in Barbados on the 17th October, 1929, and remained in the island till the 26th October, when the Commission left for Antigua.

5. During their stay in Barbados the Commission held five public sittings, and a further one on the 12th November, when they called at the island on their way from Saint Lucia to British Guiana. Twenty-nine witnesses were examined publicly and private discussions were held with the Governor and a number of other persons. They visited all parts of the island and inspected eight representative sugar factories.

6. On the completion of their enquiry the Commissioners recommended to the Secretary of State for the Colonies that—

(1) His Majesty's Government should forthwith seriously endeavour, by whatever methods may best commend themselves, to promote the rationalization of world conditions and policy in regard to sugar production and trading, as His Majesty's Government effectively did in respect to the similar situation reported upon by the 1897 Commission.

In the interim,

(2) All sugar for the United Kingdom should be bought by a single agency and Imperial sugar paid for at a fixed minimum rate based on reasonable economic costs of production. This rate should be at present about £15 per ton c.i.f. for 96° sugar (slightly over 1½d. per lb.). All other sugar should be purchased in the open market, taking full advantage of the cheapness caused by fiscal policies pending a reversion to sanity.

(3) By way of a moratorium, to enable the industry to carry on under present conditions, British preference on Imperial sugars should as quickly as possible be raised to equal Canadian preference for West Indian sugar, viz., 4s. 8d. per cwt.

(4) Pending the remedying of the world situation which now cheapens sugar excessively for British consumers or the establishment of a single purchasing system with guaranteed minimum price, the British Customs duty on sugar should not be reduced below 4s. 8d. per cwt., under which tariff Imperial sugar should be admitted free.

7. The Department of Science and Agriculture continued its work on the breeding of sugar cane and a number of new varieties are reaching the commercial stage. Prominent amongst these are the varieties B726 and B891—the former of which gives every indication of being the best sugar cane seedling under certain climatic conditions produced by Barbados, not even excepting the world renowned B.H.10(12).

8. The constant introduction of new parent canes through the quarantine station at Washington is now giving results and during the last reaping season three seedlings (having as male parent a Barbados cane and as female parent P.O.J.2364) have proved of sufficient merit to be included in the extended field trials, that is to say, that if their promise is fulfilled they are only three years from being distributed as commercial varieties.

9. The introduction of these fresh parents is involving a great deal of extra work on the personnel of the Department and the time is fast approaching when the assistance which in the past has always been willingly given to the rest of the British West Indies in the supplying of new varieties will have to be curtailed or withdrawn unless financial assistance is forthcoming from sources outside Barbados.

10. Considerable progress has been made in the breeding of new varieties of sweet potatoes for early maturity and capacity for storage, which will be essential if the projected co-operative marketing and export of ground-produce (with which the Department is closely associated) bears fruit.

11. Sunflowers are being tested together with other oil-bearing seeds with a view to providing a fat suitable for cooking to replace the extensive importation of cotton seed from the Northern States in South America.

12. The measures adopted for the elimination of the pink boll-worm have proved a hundred per cent. effective with the result that no traces of this pest have been reported during the first six months of 1930, and that over 2,000 acres will be put under sea island cotton next season.

13. The results of the first season's distribution of the parasite (*Trichogramma minutum*) to combat the ravages of the moth or stalk-borer (*Diatraea saccharalis*) have been highly successful. Planters and factory managers are unanimous in reporting a much smaller percentage of damaged canes and a very much cleaner juice.

14. The situation with regard to the root borer (*Diaprepes Abbreviatus*) is not so satisfactory. Although a large proportion of planters have co-operated heartily with the Department there still remain a number of reactionaries, who persist in neglecting to collect beetles. It is, however, safe to say that the depredations of this pest are being checked, even though its economic control is not in sight.

15. The mosaic disease is now under economic control and is no longer regarded as a menace to the sugar industry in Barbados.

16. The manurial trials carried out by the Agricultural Chemist are proving to planters that many thousands of dollars can be saved every year by the scientific application of balanced fertilisers, rather than by the rule of thumb methods formerly in practice. The trials conducted in sour grass pastures give every indication of revolutionizing the agricultural practice of the island, as the greatly increased yield following on the application of the manure gives more food for stock and sufficient of a heavy mulch in the canes in January when it is most needed and when hitherto it has been unavailable. This heavy trashing is bound to result in a diminished need for pen manure which has formed in the past the basis of cultivation.

17. Work with the Zeiss Refractometer in the control of vacuum pan boiling in sugar-manufacture has, by the energetic work of the Agricultural Chemist, now become a commercial proposition and is in practical use in three factories.

18. The soil survey of the island is progressing, but is retarded by the employment of the personnel being engaged in the analyses of commercial sugar for half the year.

19. An effort was made to take an Agricultural Census of the island. While the planters submitted fairly complete returns,

those of the peasant farmers were very incomplete and inaccurate. However, the figures received covered seventy-five per cent. of the average of the island.

20. A new Session of the Legislature was opened on the 4th February, 1930. The general elections of members of the House of Assembly were held on the 3rd February for the election of 24 representatives. One member of the old Assembly did not seek re-election. Twelve members were returned unopposed, and there were contested elections in six of the twelve constituencies. The new Assembly consisted of 20 old members and 4 new members, three old members having lost their seats. The total number of persons whose names were included in the electoral rolls at the time of the election was 5,148. The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 8 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 18 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last census returns.

21. A party of members of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association made a tour of the British West Indies on the C.N.S. *Lady Drake,* which sailed from Halifax on the 24th January, 1930. Information respecting the proposed visit had been received through Sir William Clark, K.C.S.I., C.M.G., High Commissioner for Great Britain in Canada. The party arrived at Barbados on the 4th February and attended the opening ceremony of the Legislature, leaving the Colony the same day on their south-bound trip. On their return northward they had an opportunity of meeting members of the Chamber of Commerce and discussing matters relating to the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement.

22. Other distinguished visitors to the Colony during the year were :—The Right Honourable Viscount Willingdon, G.C.S.I., G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E., G.B.E., Governor-General of Canada, who visited the Colony in December accompanied by Dame Lady Willingdon ; His Grace the Duke of Devonshire, K.G., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., P.C., Lord Methuen, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., Sir Esme Howard, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador at Washington, and Lord Robert Baden Powell, G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., K.C.B., Chief Scout.

The visit of the Chief Scout directed attention to the work which is being done locally in Scouting. The movement was started in 1912, by the formation of a troop at the Combermere School ; it soon became popular through the parish of Saint Michael, and it has more recently been extended to the out parishes where many elementary schools have taken it up. The organization is controlled by an Island Scout Council. Its present strength is 715.

The Girl Guide movement was introduced in 1918 and is doing well ; its present strength is 486.

23. The advantages of climate which the island possesses, its excellent sea-bathing facilities, and the adequate hotel and club

accommodation which are always at the disposal of visitors are assets, the value of which is being increasingly recognized. Facilities for recreation are abundant. Cricket is very popular. The season lasts from June to December and games are played on Saturdays. There is an annual intercolonial tournament played in each of the Colonies of Barbados, Trinidad, and British Guiana in turn. A team under the auspices of the M.C.C. visited the West Indies in the winter of 1929-30, and played in each of the Colonies above mentioned as well as in Jamaica, two matches against a Colony Eleven and one test match against a representative West Indies Team.

Association Football is played from January to April. It has increased in popularity in recent years as the result of visits to the Colony by strong teams from Trinidad where the game has reached a high standard.

There are many good tennis clubs in the island, the principal one being the Savannah Club. Golf is well catered for by the Rockley Golf and Country Club, which came into existence about a year ago.

24. Progress has been made in the organization of hurricane relief arrangements during the year by the formulation of a scheme to give effect to relief measures and to indicate, for the guidance of local Committees, what procedure may be advantageously adopted in the initiation of relief and reconstruction after a hurricane.

25. The total rainfall for the year, measured at 143 stations, was 56·03 inches.

26. The malaria epidemic, which made its first appearance in 1927, died out during the year. As compared with 1928 the number of cases fell from 2,951 to 560, of which 430 cases were notified in the month of January. No new case has been notified since the middle of October, 1929.

27. Health Week was observed in the Colony during the period from 21st July to 27th July, 1929. The idea originated with the Health Commissioners of the Parish of Saint Michael, who were desirous of effecting a general cleaning up of the Central Parish ; but it was possible also to arrange so as to extend the movement to the other parishes of the island. Lectures were given daily by medical practitioners to the children of the elementary schools and to the inhabitants of the villages, while a general cleaning up of rubbish was carried out in every district. A Mass Meeting was held at Queen's Park on Thursday, 25th July, in the afternoon, at which His Excellency the Governor presided.

28. The work of restoration of Codrington College commenced in January, and at the date of writing this report the walls have been raised to the required height and are awaiting the arrival of the roof which has been imported from the United Kingdom. £5,000 towards the restoration has been contributed from public funds.

29. Questions relating to road maintenance and construction and the provision of transport facilities, whether by road or rail, were referred to a Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor and two interim reports have been presented. In the first report the Committee suggest that the provision of adequate storage and shipping arrangements at the railway terminus and the extension of the lines in order to tap fresh areas might increase the volume of traffic, lead to reduction in freight and handling charges, as well as economy in road maintenance.

In their second report the Committee have examined the road policy of the past and have submitted recommendations, the adoption of which they regard as a necessary preliminary to proposals which they hope to submit for the improvement of financial and administrative arrangements.

30. The recommendations of a Committee appointed to submit proposals for which assistance might be sought from the Colonial Development Fund included the following :—road reconstruction, improvement and extension of water supply, provision of venereal disease clinics, development of the market, provision for treatment of tuberculosis at parochial almshouses, additional plant for agricultural instruction, improvement of fire brigade. An appeal has been forwarded to the Colonial Office for the required assistance, together with a request for expert investigation in regard to harbour improvements and the provision of a sewerage system.

31. The following naval ships visited the Colony :—

H.M.S. *Despatch* on the 2nd April, 1929.
H.M.S. *Wistaria* on the 22nd April, 1929.
Argentine Ship *Buenos Ayres* on the 11th May, 1929.
German School Ship *Grossherzogen Elizabeth* on the 27th November, 1929.
H.M.S. *Wistaria* on the 5th March, 1930.

32. An application was received in January from the Pan-American Airways, Incorporated, for permission to make Barbados a port of call for the purpose of delivering mails and refuelling, and carrying passengers by its aircraft. A special and temporary authorization was granted. It is understood that a British Company entitled "Atlantic Airways, Limited," propose to commence operations in the West Indies in the near future.

33. In Barbados the administration of local affairs is vested in parochial authorities and boards, mainly independent of administrative control, which receive from the Central Government either grants-in-aid for specific purposes or the funds necessary for the conduct of public institutions. Their operations are directed mainly towards the maintenance of health and highways as well as in the provision of adequate means of sustenance for the poor. Parochial revenue amounted collectively during the year to £125,318,

and expenditure to £121,351. The total cost of poor relief was £81,707, of which £42,443 was raised and expended by parochial authorities. Special grants from general revenue to the Parishes for highways purposes amounted to £5,450 in excess of those for which the law provides, and the total expended by Parochial Commissioners was £27,120.

34. No changes have occurred in currency. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation, and British silver is legal tender to an unlimited amount. There is in addition a dollar paper currency issued by the banks, the exchange value being fixed at $4·80 to the pound sterling.

35. British imperial standard weights and measures are everywhere employed.

II.—FINANCE.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1925–26	404,132	394,249
1926–27	387,462	418,711
1927–28	414,884	481,252
1928–29	441,732	459,626
1929–30	453,802	450,696

In these amounts are included receipts and payments on account of loans. If these amounts are deducted, the ordinary revenue for the year 1929–30 was £407,042, as compared with £419,674 for 1928–29, and the ordinary expenditure £403,936, compared with £437,568. Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve funds set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1930, was £34,130.

Special Funds.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...	50,583	11	8
Water Boat Renewal Fund	11,208	4	8
Red Cross Fund	1,676	1	2
Public Officers' Security Fund	5,603	10	10
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	24,760	8	4
Road Reconstruction Fund	18,243	3	2
	£212,074	19	10

Revenue.

2. The revenue for 1929–30 shows an increase of £12,070 over that of the previous year, the principal heads showing increases being "Reimbursements" £24,144; Customs £3,593; while the largest decreases occur under Excise £10,074; Income Tax £5,504. The increase under all heads was £30,201, while the decreases totalled £18,131. The decreases are due generally to fluctuations in business.

Expenditure.

3. The expenditure for 1929–30, excluding loan disbursements, was £403,936, a decrease of £33,632 as compared with the previous year. The total expenditure for the year was £8,930 less than in 1928–29.

4. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads "Police," "Education," "Medical," and "Water Works." The expenditure under these heads was as follows:—

			Compared with 1928–29
	£		£
Police	45,516,	a decrease of ...	165
Education ...	50,598,	a decrease of ...	3,752
Medical	46,298,	an increase of ...	4,372
Water Works ...	45,021,	a decrease of ...	6,598
	£187,433		

The total expenditure on these four departments, £187,433, represents 46 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

5. Special expenditure on restoration of roads amounted to £33,287, and in the anti-malaria campaign £607. The question as to the proportion of road charges involved in the work of reconstruction now being carried out which may properly be allocated to loan funds has finally to be decided, but the suggestion put forward and adopted tentatively by the Legislature is that 50 per cent. of the expenditure should be so allocated.

6. As compared with the previous year there was a net decrease in expenditure of a sum of £8,930.

Public Debt.

7. The Public Debt at the 31st March, 1930, was £654,000, the Sinking Fund on that date being £330,655, as compared with £318,242 in 1929. The accumulated sinking fund for the Water Works Loan of £375,000 was, at the end of the financial year, potentially full, and provision for further accretions to the fund has been discontinued. The Loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1930, were as follows:—

Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.*			*Amount outstanding.*			*Sinking Fund.*			*Date Redeemable.*
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	
Water Works Loan Act, 1894	375,000	0	0	375,000	0	0	281,895	8	6	15th March, 1942.
Public Works Loan Act, 1887	92,000	0	0	20,000	0	0	19,147	3	9	£6,000 October, 1930. £14,000 November, 1932.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	8,106	9	4	£11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Act, 1917, Special Loan Act, 1917 (No. 2), Special Loan Act, 1920, and Special Loan (Amendment) Act, 1922, Special Loan Act, 1922	147,000	0	0	147,000	0	0	20,999	6	10	£35,000 August, 1964. £30,000 February, 1965. £40,000 March, 1968. £25,000 April, 1969. £17,000 May, 1969.
Public Loan Act, 1928 (No. 28)	75,000	0	0	75,000	0	0	506	9	7	October, 1975.
	£726,000	0	0	£654,000	0	0	£330,654	18	0	

Government Savings Bank.

8. On the 31st December, 1929, there were 10,140 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £539,102. The value of the invested funds was £675,387. The figures for 1928 were : deposits £577,089, invested funds £723,850, and number of depositors 11,776. The number of depositors shows a decrease of 1,636, and the total amount to their credit a decrease of £37,987, the amount by which the withdrawals for the year exceeded the deposits.

An amendment to the Savings Bank Act passed in 1929 authorized the writing off to Profit and Loss Account of all accounts whose balances were less than one dollar with which no transaction had taken place for a period of five years. Under this amendment 1,464 accounts were closed, the total amount written off being £119 15s. 3d.

The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

9. This Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows :—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman, ex officio, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The Staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1930, after paying income tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan, and salaries, etc., amounted to £6,731.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1930, was £196,813, as compared with £190,082 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £2,397, as compared with £2,321 for the previous year.

Loans and interest outstanding at 31st May, 1930, which are secured as a first lien against the land of the several borrowers, are due as under :—

	Loans due.			*Interest unpaid*		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1921 loans due from 13 borrowers	23,583	6	11½	1,697	16	3½
1924 .. ,, .. 1 borrower	450	0	0	27	0	0
1925 .. .. ,, 4 borrowers	5,906	17	2	578	6	2½
1926 .. ,, ,, 8 ,, ...	6,306	8	2	451	7	10
1927 .. ,, ,, 2 ,, ...	600	0	0	94	15	6½
1928 .. .. ,, 13 ,, ...	5,290	19	1	204	16	2½
1929 ,, ,, ,, 46 ,, ...	28,690	8	0½	1274	13	7
1930 ,, ,, ,, 103 ,, ...	146,628	11	0	3,008	6	3½
	£217,456	10	5	£7,337	1	11½

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

1. *Sugar.*—According to Customs returns for the year 1929, 62,107^{17} tons of vacuum pan crystals, 3,408^{17} tons of muscovado sugar, and 8,035,779 wine gallons of molasses, equal at 110 gallons per puncheon to 73,052 puncheons of molasses of all grades, were exported. The value of these exports, £956,206, was made up as follows :—

Sugar.	*Tons.*	*Value.* £	£
Dark Crystals	62,107^{17}	683,187	
Muscovado	3,408^{17}	39,202	
			722,389
	65,516^{14}		
Molasses.	*Gallons.*		
Fancy	6,377,435	212,581	
Choice	579,546	14,489	
Vacuum pan	1,078,798	6,747	
			233,817
	8,035,779		
			£956,206

The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1925	65,567
1926	64,431
1927	72,301
1928	78,973
1929	82,298

Sugar-cane production as distinct from sugar produced has been as follows :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1925	772,453
1926	760,525
1927	843,160
1928	913,216
1929	954,656

It is estimated that approximately 35,000 acres are under sugar-cane annually.

The average prices obtained for sugar and its by-products are as follows :—

	1925.			*1926.*			*1927.*			*1928.*			*1929.*		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sugar, per ton ...	14	10	0	12	5	0	15	5	0	13	9	0	11	0	6
Molasses, per gallon		1	0			9			11			10			7
Rum, per gallon ...		2	0		2	1		2	1		1	11½		1	11½

The value and destination of sugar and molasses shipped from the Colony was as follows :—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	67,809	3,589
Canada	641,326	157,687
Newfoundland	24	18,372
United States of America ...	—	50,982
Holland	2,038	3,078
Elsewhere	11,192	105

The value of these commodities exported was in the case of sugar, less than in 1928, by £152,850 and in the case of molasses less by £54,882.

2. *Cotton.*—No cotton was grown commercially during the period under review. The encroachment of the pink boll worm necessitated the introduction of a close season for the island and it is gratifying to record that at the date of writing (June, 1930) no trace of the pest has been observed in the island.

Mining.

3. A small quantity of manjak is mined and exported. The industry, however, remains undeveloped and it appears that deposits are not explored or worked to an extent which their occurrence may justify.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

1. The value of the total trade of the Colony as well as that of imports and exports is shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1925	2,296,359	1,421,035	3,717,394
1926	2,155,167	1,287,161	3,442,328
1927	2,300,108	1,603,531	3,903,639
1928	2,349,159	1,531,265	3,880,424
1929	2,039,601	1,287,300	3,326,901

2. The value of goods imported and entered for transhipment was £10,791 more than in 1928. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	£
1925	225,023
1926	133,966
1927	167,869
1928	185,863
1929	196,654

3. Imports during 1929 as compared with 1928 show a decrease of £309,558. The principal decreases of imports are seen in the following :—Motor Cars and Motor Vehicles £24,146 ; Cotton Piece Goods £20,237 ; Coal £13,915 ; Flour £16,970 ; Oats £10,480 ; Rice £15,223 ; Manures, all kinds £18,646 ; Machinery, all kinds, £16,109 ; Iron and Steel Manufactures £12,002 ; Pitch Pine £12,818 ; Shingles £10,285 ; Articles introduced by Parcels Post £19,464 ; Staves and Shooks £12,758.

The principal increases are seen in Butter £8,061 ; Fish Dried, Salted, etc., £5,421 ; Oils :—Edible £6,016 ; Residue £14,177.

For the five years prior to 1929 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 28,010 tons. In 1929 the number of tons taken were 22,008. The following figures relate to the export of coal during the last five years :—

	Steamships.	*Tons of coal.*
1925	121	30,895
1926	150	32,702
1927	127	26,786
1928	105	26,411
1929	101	22,008

4. The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin whence comes the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	%	%	%	%	%
United Kingdom	36·3	30·9	33·5	35·4	33·9
Canada	20·9	20·5	19·3	20·7	18·7
Other parts of the British Empire	15·2	18·5	18·5	17·2	17·6
United States of America ...	18·7	21·6	19·9	17·3	19·6
Other Foreign Countries ...	8·9	8·5	8·8	9·4	10·2

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1929 exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	691,216
Canada	381,704
Other parts of the British Empire	358,172
United States of America	400,289
Other Foreign Countries	207,423

5. Total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, Drink, etc.	809,619
Raw Materials	294,085
Manufactured Articles	864,964
Miscellaneous	70,136
	£2,038,804
Specie	797
	£2,039,601

6. The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and Shoes	7,726	542
Butter	5,063	630
Oilmeal (cattle food)	12,071	39,979
Coal	—	23,331
Cornmeal	—	25,945
Fish (salted)	34,160	—
Flour	85,949	25,401
Oats	23,754	8
Manures	16,524	4,458
Salt Beef	—	3,618
Pork	13,999	21,659
Wood (various)	40,260	20,436

7. The total value of exports was £1,281,094, of which £1,012,167 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £268,927 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows :—

	1929.		*1928.*		*1927.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£
Sugar (tons) ...	65,517	722,389	62,659	875,239	53,106	815,637
Molasses (gals.) ...	8,035,779	233,813	7,229,181	288,699	8,258,690	426,698
Cotton (lb.) ...	8,858	728	14,249	1,680	187,709	20,726
Rum (gals.) ...	46,130	4,517	40,690	3,983	22,425	2,336

	1926.		*1925.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Sugar (tons)	45,786	593,819	47,460	686,238
Molasses (gals.)	7,760,334	310,745	7,869,275	395,910
Cotton (lb.)	315,192	40,623	235,911	22,998
Rum (gals.)	18,692	1,947	13,292	1,329

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 210,853 gallons.

8. The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows :—

	£
Bay Rum	477
Biscuits	19,174
Cotton Seed Meal	1,548
Fruit (tamarind)	3,496
Hides and Skins	3,218
Lime, "building"	4,104
Manjak	160
Oils (edible)	463
Vegetables, fresh	7,956

9. The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years :—

	1925.	*1926.*	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	204,970	247,987	141,078	159,731	78,381
Canada	767,619	593,474	1,024,297	923,079	799,230
Other parts of the British Empire.	97,001	70,152	76,489	68,473	64,401
United States of America	54,909	61,756	58,279	59,148	58,221
Other Foreign Countries ...	19,895	15,008	11,887	15,698	11,455
Stores (ships)	—	—	976	640	479
	£1,144,394	£988,377	£1,313,006	£1,226,769	£1,012,167

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as compared with 1928 are :—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	—	5·3
Canada	3·8	—
Other parts of the British Empire	0·8	—
United States of America ...	1·0	—
Other Foreign Countries ...	—	0·1

Canada is still the largest purchaser of both sugar and molasses, the principal domestic products of the island, and will probably continue to be so. Freight rates, reciprocal trade relations, and marketing conditions are factors all of which tend increasingly to open still further the outlet for Colonial products in the markets of the Dominion.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

1. The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,104, with a net tonnage of 1,983,686 as compared with 1,194 vessels with a tonnage of 1,990,866 during the previous year. In addition five ships of war, eleven yachts, and two training ships visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 4,115, while 3,969 were discharged. The estimated amount of money earned during the year as wages by seamen belonging to, and engaging in, the Colony for service of ships was £47,000 as compared with £43,200 for the previous year.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica, and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the

Colony are the Harrison and the Leyland Lines from Liverpool direct and the Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from London fortnightly. The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) run a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados and Central American ports, calling at Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth on the return. The same Company operate the Surinam Line, a three-weekly service from Amsterdam calling at Dover, Madeira, Paramaribo, Demerara, Barbados, Trinidad, Venezuelan ports, Curaçao, Haiti, and New York; when homeward bound, these vessels do not call at Barbados but, in addition to the above-named ports, touch at Boulogne. The Elders and Fyffes Line of steamers make fortnightly sailings from Avonmouth, calling at Barbados. The duration of the voyage from England is about 13 days, the return journey is usually accomplished in 11 days.

The Canadian National Steamships operate a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Bermuda, the Leeward Islands and Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados. The freight and passenger service commenced in December, 1928, with the sailing of the s.s. *Lady Nelson* from Halifax, N.S., on the 14th of that month. The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provide a fortnightly freight service between Halifax and Barbados. An irregular service is provided by freighters of the Canadian Transport Company; these vessels sail from Vancouver, B.C.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Lamport and Holt Line, the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy), and the Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Ocean Service), the first-named calling at Barbados on their voyage between New York and South American ports. Ships of the Aluminium Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados *en route* to British and Dutch Guiana.

The Western Ocean Steamship Corporation started a fortnightly service in December from New York to Barbados via Bermuda and the Northern Islands, thence to Paramaribo via Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and Demerara.

Railways.

2. A light railway 24 miles long runs through the southern Parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are

derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £13,000. The actual expenditure including extraordinary outlay was £13,285 and the actual revenue £11,250.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years :—

	1929.	*1928.*	*1927.*
Passengers	91,204	94,341	103,653
Horses	—	—	—
Mules	—	—	—
Asses	—	—	—
Cows	5	3	3
Calves	28	19	14
Sheep	32	14	15
Goats and Kids	37	29	19
Pigs	36	44	44
Dogs	33	34	47

	1929.			*1928.*			*1927.*		
Goods :—	*T.*	*C.*	*Q.*	*T.*	*C.*	*Q.*	*T.*	*C.*	*Q.*
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses.	16,663	7	0	16,433	14	0	17,399	13	0
Canes	9,078	16	2	12,889	2	0	11,988	6	0
Fuel	156	8	2	231	8	0	311	9	0
Sundries	9,704	13	1	6,452	8	2	8,524	14	2
	35,603	5	1	36,006	12	2	38,224	2	2

Roads.

3. The island is a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of eleven Boards of Highways Commissioners.

Up to ten or fifteen years ago—before the advent of self-propelled vehicles—Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficient provision of funds, and the lack of skilled engineering assistance, led to rapid deterioration of the roads of the island.

As stated elsewhere in this report the island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 120 miles of main roads and approximately 300 miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use.

The first definite step towards relieving the situation was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct, the main roads radiating from Bridgetown. This step was based on a report of a Road Commission appointed by the Governor in 1925. The Commission thus appointed had the assistance of Mr. Maurice Ravenor, M.I.C.E., who estimated that the roads classified as main roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile. He also recommended that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the city of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the Parish of Saint Michael was transferred to the Central Road Board. An additional and urgent task was thus imposed upon the Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926–27, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1928–29, the sum of £74,350 has been spent on six of the seven arterial roads plus approximately £22,000 from Parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's parish.

In addition to the sum of £74,350 mentioned above, a sum of £3,150 was granted to the Board to oil and improve some nine miles of the seventh arterial road in the parish of Christ Church, which had recently been re-surfaced by the Parochial Authorities.

The whole question of expenditure on road reconstruction and maintenance is at present under consideration.

For the year 1929–30 the Legislature granted £40,550 for road reconstruction, of which £30,660 was expended to 31st March, 1930. Up to this date 42 miles of arterial roads have been completed.

Postal, etc.

4. There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies, and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines :—

Harrison, Elders and Fyffes, Leyland, Royal Netherlands, proceeding to Great Britain, certain West Indian Colonies, Central America and Colon.

Canadian Nationals, proceeding to St. John, N.B., Halifax, Bermuda, British West Indian Colonies, and British Guiana.

Ocean Dominion, proceeding to St. John, N.B., Halifax, and certain West Indian Islands.

Ocean Dominion, proceeding to New York and certain West Indian Islands.

Bermuda and West Indies, proceeding to New York and certain West Indian Islands.

Lamport and Holt, proceeding to New York and South American ports.

In addition to the above, mails are forwarded by any other available lines.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below :—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*	
	1928.	*1929.*	*1928.*	*1929.*
Mails for Barbados	498	489	19	9
Mails from Barbados	502	495	61	58

	1928.	*1929.*
Bags of mail despatched ...	5,129	4,956
Bags of mail received	11,680	11,467
Bags of mail received in transit...	4,585	4,856
Registered articles	96,390	94,922
Parcel-post packages	62,400	66,482
	£	£
Money-orders issued	10,661	11,034
Money-orders paid	79,737	87,962

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

1. The Statutes of Barbados are, in the main, similar to those of England, and the Superior Courts are presided over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction is vested in a Judge of the Petty Debt Court in Bridgetown and seven Police Magistrates, five of whom in rural districts have jurisdiction in civil matters. From their decisions and judgments there lies an appeal to the Assistant Court of Appeal composed of three Judges. Besides its appellate jurisdiction this Court possesses limited equitable and probate jurisdiction. The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £13,275.

The Judicial Establishment Act, No. 43 of 1929, aims at improving the administration of justice and the status and efficiency of judicial officers. It seeks to effect these objects by a reduction in the number of judicial officers, an increase in their work and responsibilities and an advancement in their salaries, the salaries at present paid being inadequate and in many instances fixed on a pre-war basis.

The changes which will be carried out by the Bill may be summarized as follows :—

(1) Reduction in the number of Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal from three to two. These Judges will sit together to hear appeals and singly to hear original cases, causes, and matters in the original jurisdiction of the Court (£50 at Common Law, £300 in Equity).

(2) Automatic appointment as acting Chief Judge of one of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal, when the holder of the substantive office of Chief Judge is absent for short periods in the performance of duties as a Judge of the West Indian Court of Appeal.

(3) One of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal to be Registrar of Friendly Societies and the other Inspector of Prisons.

(4) Abolition of the judgeship of the Bridgetown Petty Debt Court and the transfer of the work of that Court to the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal, provision being made for appeals from the decision of a Judge in such matters to be heard by the other Judge and the Registrar.

(5) Increase of salaries of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal from £500 (two Judges) and £450 (one Judge) to £600 (two Judges, each per annum).

(6) Extension of the right of appeal from the Assistant Court of Appeal to the Court of Error to include appeals from decisions on fact as well as on points of law.

(7) Reduction in the number of magistrates by one :—the parish of Saint Thomas being grouped with the parishes at present comprising District " F " and the parish of Saint James being added to District " E."

(8) Transfer of the duties of Coroner of District " A " from a Judge of the Assistant Court of Appeal to the two magistrates of that district.

(9) Increase in the salaries of magistrates from £400 (District " A ") and £385 (Country districts) to £500 each per annum.

Police.

2. The Police Force, under the command of an Inspector-General who is also Commandant of the Local Forces, consists of 408 officers and men. An efficient Band is attached to the Force. The Inspector-General of Police is charged also with the control of a fire brigade consisting of 25 men.

Prisons.

3. Glendairy Prison, in the Parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony. It is divided into two sections, one for each of the sexes, and is a highly efficient and well-conducted institution. Juvenile adult prisoners are classified and segregated from adults, and instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, cement work, baking, and other crafts. In regard to criminal statistics, prison records for 1929 show an increase in the number of commitments, mainly on the male side. The following is a comparative statement of convictions for the last three years :—

	1927.	1928.	1929.
Total number of persons committed to prison	831	845	998
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	41	36	47
Daily average in prison (males)	144	125	137
Daily average in prison (females)	24	29	28
Police Court convictions	9,839	9,454	9,173
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	348	270	480
Convictions by Superior Court	50	49	54
Convictions by Superior Court for praedial larceny ...	—	—	—

A scheme for the after-care of discharged prisoners is conducted by the Prison Chaplain and the local branch of the Salvation Army.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

No new works of importance have been carried out during the year 1929–30.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The total population on the 31st December, 1929, was estimated to be 170,391. The death-rate during the year was 23.74 per thousand of the population, and the birth-rate 32.04. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	Birth-rate.	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*Death-rate.*
1925 ...	34·85 per 1,000	70·92	29·46 per 1,000.
1926 ...	31·32 ,, ,,	68·83	29·62 ,, ,,
1927 ...	31·59 ,, ,,	66·81	20·21 ,, ,,
1928 ...	33·76 ,, ,,	65·99	30·10 ,, ,,
1929 ...	32·04 ,, ,,	63·37	23·74 ,, ,,

The percentage of uncertified deaths was 3·3 per cent. in 1929 of the total, as compared with 3 per cent. in 1928 and 4·3 per cent. in 1927.

Under the age group 1–5 years the percentage of deaths was 42·95 of the total number of deaths. The rate of infant mortality for the past five years is as follows :—

		Infant deaths per 1,000 births.
1925	... ...	312
1926	... ...	314
1927	... ...	201
1928	... ...	331
1929	... ...	239

Malaria.—In the year 1929 the total number of cases notified amounted to 560, of which 430 cases were notified in the month of January. No cases have been notified since 17th October, 1929.

The following table shows both the number of cases and their parochial distribution :—

Cases of Malaria notified in 1929.

Parish.	*Jan.*	*Feb.*	*March.*	*April.*	*May.*	*June.*	*July.*	*Aug.*	*Sept.*	*Oct.*	*Nov.*	*Dec.*	*Total.*
Saint Michael	59	14	5	4	1	6	10	4	0	0	0	0	103
Christ Church	271	34	14	3	7	3	3	1	2	2	0	0	340
Saint George	15	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	19
Saint Philip	16	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Saint John	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saint James	2	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Saint Thomas	21	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Saint Peter	44	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
Saint Lucy	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	[illegible]
Saint Joseph	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saint Andrew	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	430	56	22	11	8	9	15	5	2	2	0	0	560

The Baby Welfare Clinic continues to do good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds, and strictest economy has to be maintained. A medical practitioner attends on Wednesdays to examine and prescribe for sick babies, and is paid £3 6s. 8d. per month. The Treasury grants £150 a year and the Saint Michael's Vestry £100, but this year the Vestry granted an extra £50, in answer to a petition from the League for more help. Private donations during the year amounted to £30 5s. 7d. 318 infants were entered at the Clinic during the year; 39 of these died, congenital syphilis being accountable for 10 of these deaths.

The following table gives the principal causes of death, as compiled from the returns made under the Registration of Deaths Act :—

Causes.	*Actual number of deaths.*	*Rate per 1,000 of total mortality.*	*Rate per 1,000 of estimated population.*
Fevers :—			
Enteric	41	10	0·2
Malaria	40	10	0·2
Other (except puerperal)...	—	—	—
Bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhoea, and enteritis*...	664	165	4·0
Pneumonia and bronchitis†	218	54	1·3
Kidney diseases	254	63	1·5
Phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis ...	173	43	1·0
Diseases peculiar to early infancy... ...	311	76	1·8
Old age	149	37	0·9
Diseases of the heart	292	73	1·7
Syphilis‡	556	138	3·3
Diseases of the nervous system	319	79	1·8

The number of deaths from syphilis was 556 as compared with 668 recorded in 1928. The Central Venereal Disease Clinic attached to the General Hospital is given an annual grant of £1,200 a year.

The number of deaths from bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhoea, and enteritis, dropped from 1,155 to 664. Of these deaths, 76 per cent. were of children under three years of age.

The following table gives the cases of enteric fever notified during the last five years :—

1925	432
1926	441
1927	350
1928	194
1929	209

During the last three years provision for the cost of free inoculation of contacts has been made in the Colonial Estimates.

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* 76 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.

† 62 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.

‡ 87 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.

Six cases of leprosy were admitted and two re-admitted during the year to the Leper Asylum, and 13 patients were discharged conditionally.

At the end of the year, 115 patients remained at the Asylum. A scheme for the relief of discharged patients was, at the end of the year, still under consideration by the local branch of the Empire Leprosy Relief Association.

The number of inmates at the Mental Hospital at the end of the year was 471.

IX.—EDUCATION.

1. The schools of the island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, almost entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

2. There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 129 in 1929; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English Universities. The Cambridge Junior Local or the Lower Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board are also taken by pupils of both second and first grade schools.

3. In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1929 was 23,374 and the average attendance 15,717, a decrease of 6 and an increase of 540 respectively as compared with the figures for 1928. During the year the system on which head teachers' salaries was based was revised and an incremental system introduced. The schools are now graded according to their average attendance, and the maximum and minimum salaries vary with the grade. A head-teacher may earn, in addition to his salary, a maximum amount of £25 per annum as an Efficiency Grant, the amount being dependent on the efficiency of the school as judged by the inspectors.

4. To the number of second-grade schools have been added the Saint Michael's Second-Grade School for Girls and the Christ Church Girls' Foundation School. The Saint Michael's School is excellently

accommodated in a new building erected in 1927 at a cost of £15,000, and opened in 1928. The school now has an attendance of 110 which appears to be steadily increasing. The need for facilities for domestic science teaching at present exists, and provision for this important work, will, it is hoped, be made in the near future. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1929 was 360 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 188.

5. The three first-grade schools are Harrison College, and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendances at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1929 were 238 and 153 respectively. The Lodge School, in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 101, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. At this school attend a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

6. Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, a Barbadian, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licenses, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. The College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but provision has been made for carrying on its courses until restoration, which is well under way, can be effected. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

7. The total grant for education purposes exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls in 1929 was £50,153, of which £1,284 was the cost of office staff, etc. ; £10,461 grants to first and second grade schools, £794 for University Education, and £37,300 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses. Of the £37,300 allocated to elementary schools, the cost of salaries of teachers amounted to £31,373 ; £2,000 having been granted as compensation for loss of school fees, which are no longer collected as elementary education has been made free.

8. School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in 5 schools, while 24 schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work, brush-making, etc. A cooking class has been started at two girls' schools.

9. Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924, (1924–31), 13 apprentices completed their first year's, 15 their second year's, 9 their third year's, 11 their fourth year's and 10 their fifth year's course. To these last ten the Education Board have issued certificates of competence as Journeymen Tradesmen on completion of their apprenticeship. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen, but probably neither this system nor the modicum of manual training obtainable at some of the schools is at present of more than ordinary benefit. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is left entirely to the assistance of men engaged in work themselves and is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc., during working hours. Masters and apprentices are paid from public funds, allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. 0d. a year. The whole question of technical training in the schools is still under review by the Board of Education. The aptitude of the Barbadian as a skilled worker is abundantly in evidence, and it is by the development of this feature that he can hope to advance if, as may easily be the case, he should some day meet with disappointment in securing employment in Barbados of a kind sufficient to place him on a higher social plane than that from which, in the peculiar circumstances of life in his over-populated country, he may otherwise find it difficult to emerge. For the present the education system provides for each succeeding vacant junior clerkship in the Public Service a comparatively large number of well-educated candidates, of whom some have reached to the highest educational standards attainable locally, and many have for considerable periods been unsuccessful in obtaining clerical appointments.

10. The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were 6 male and 6 female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 95 teachers, 56 male and 39 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 72 (37 male and 35 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant from the Government of £600. The question for creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education. Proposals for the adoption of a scheme for the medical and dental inspection of school children had not been finalized at the close of the year, and the details of these proposals have yet to be developed.

11. At the Boys' Industrial School and the Girls' Reformatory the number of inmates was 85 and 13 respectively. During the year the Salvation Army undertook the after-care of youths and girls on discharge from these institutions, providing them with temporary accommodation, finding them employment when possible, and keeping in subsequent touch with them. Provision to meet the actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Salvation Army in

connection with the scheme has now been included in the Colonial Estimates. In addition to school and religious instruction, boys are taught certain crafts, including carpentry, tailoring, and masonry, and are given some instruction in agriculture and the care of animals. Under the instruction of a Seamstress Matron, girls at the Reformatory make all the clothing required at the institution, and classes are held in plain and fancy work. During the year, cooking was added to the curriculum.

The health at both institutions has been good.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The whole island of Barbados is fully developed and occupied. There are no waste lands. The total area of the Colony is 106,470 acres. Records respecting the size and numbers of holdings are not available. There are but 46 acres under forest timber. For many years the trees in this area have been protected by statute. The geological structure and surface features of Barbados were interestingly described in 1890 by Messrs. Harrison and Jukes Brown, who prepared also the only geological map of the island. No further geological survey, however, is contemplated.

XI.—LABOUR.

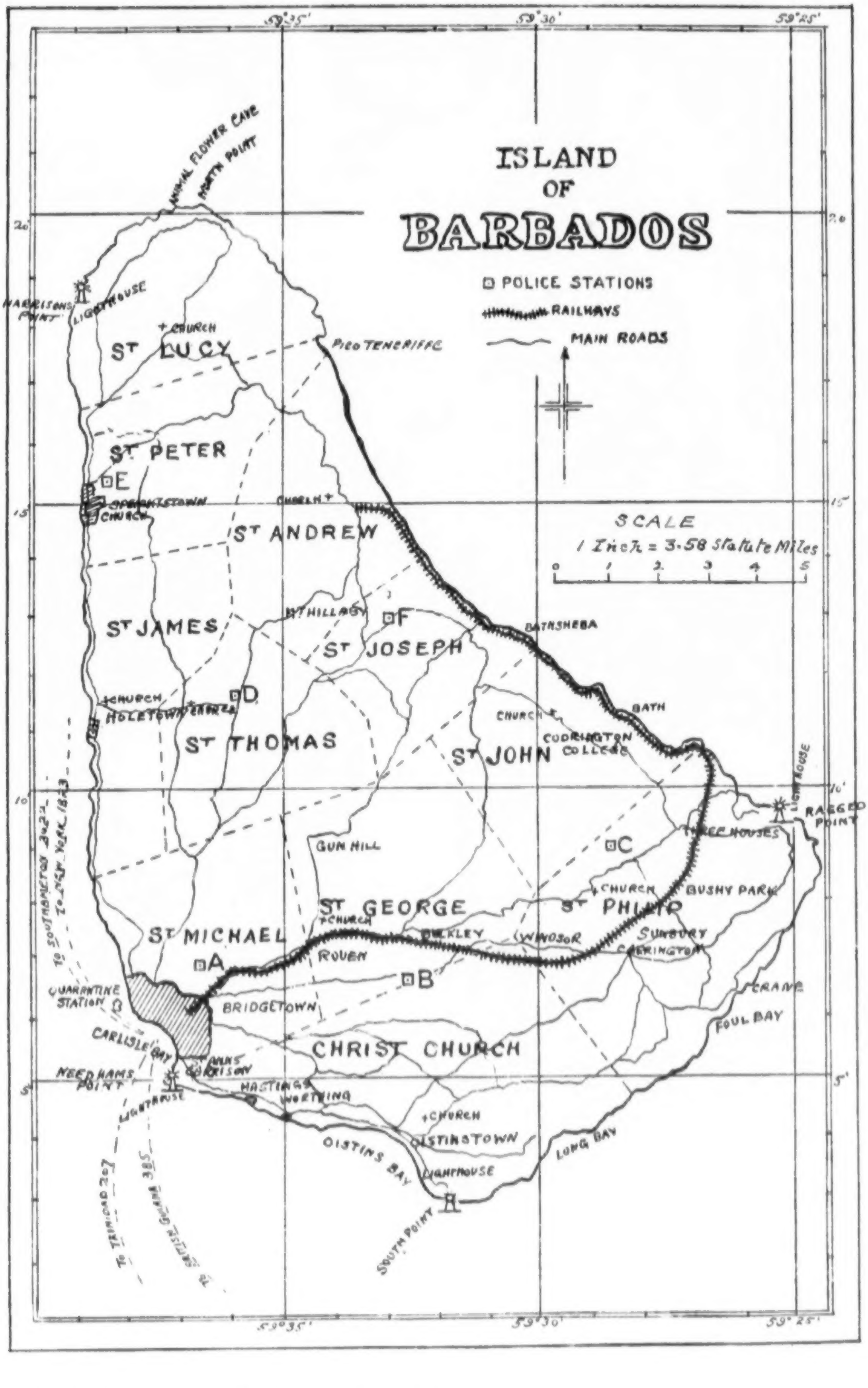
There is an abundant supply of labour available for the requirements of the Colony. Employment is offered chiefly on plantations and sugar factories, but a considerable number also work on the wharves and in the coaling business. There is no immigration of labour into the Colony.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Forty-eight Acts were passed by the Legislature during the year 1929, of which the following were of importance :—

1929-5—Quarantine (Amendment) Act.
1929-16—Revenue in aid Act.
1929-19—Property and Conveyancing Act.
1929-21—Petroleum (Amendment) Act.
1929-27—Prevention of Corruption Act.
1929-43—Judicial Establishment Act.

30*th July*, 1930.


ISLAND OF BARBADOS
POLICE STATIONS
RAILWAYS
MAIN ROADS
SCALE
1 Inch = 3.58 Statute Miles
0 1 2 3 4 5
59°35'
59°30'
59°25'
20'
15'
10'
5'
ANIMAL FLOWER CAVE
NORTH POINT
HARRISONS POINT
LIGHTHOUSE
CHURCH
ST LUCY
PICO TENERIFFE
ST PETER
E
SPEIGHTSTOWN
CHURCH
CHURCH
ST ANDREW
ST JAMES
MT HILLABY
F
ST JOSEPH
BATHSHEBA
CHURCH
HOLETOWN
CHURCH
D
ST THOMAS
BATH
CHURCH
CODRINGTON COLLEGE
ST JOHN
LIGHTHOUSE
RAGGED POINT
THREE HOUSES
C
GUN HILL
CHURCH
BUSHY PARK
ST GEORGE
CHURCH
ST PHILIP
ST MICHAEL
BUCKLEY
WINDSOR
SUNBURY
CARRINGTON
A
ROUEN
B
QUARANTINE STATION
BRIDGETOWN
CRANE
FOUL BAY
CARLISLE BAY
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REPORT FOR 1930-31

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BARBADOS.

ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT FOR 1930-31.

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Map.

History and Geography.

1. Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles with a population at the end of 1930 of 172,182. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

2. Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the island in great numbers.

3. The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way

to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I. granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I. was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629, in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the island.

4. In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle, and himself, but in 1652 the island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

5. At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663 and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force, and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

6. Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all the West Indian islands. The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies; while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find in it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool

months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados:—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics. . . . The history of the island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

7. Unlike most of the other West Indian islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine Members and a House of Assembly of twenty-four Members elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage. The Executive functions of the Government are vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be appointed by His Majesty the King, together with one Member of the Legislative Council and four Members of the Assembly nominated by the Governor. The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the Members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

8. The island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

I.—GENERAL.

The price obtained during the year for sugar was lower still than in the previous year, the figures being £9 7*s.* 7*d.* per ton as against £11 0*s.* 6*d.* in 1929. At the same time the driest year on record was responsible for a greatly reduced output, the yield from some plantations not exceeding four tons of cane to the acre as compared with a normal yield of twenty-four tons. Plantations were for still another year maintained at a direct loss to planters, and economies during the year included necessarily a considerable reduction in the standard of cultivation and of wages, and elimination of practically all ordinary maintenance work on holdings.

2. The economics of sugar production in Barbados are complicated by the fact that the island falls into two distinct divisions in each

of which the general nature of the soil and the degree of rainfall differ considerably. Approximately 60 per cent. of the Colony possesses a black soil while the remaining 40 per cent. is red. In the latter area the rainfall generally is greater. Statistics respecting the yield of these two divisions taken over the last two crop seasons show the following result :—

	Yield of tons of sugar cane per acre. 1930 *crop.*	1931 *crop.*
Dry Zone	25·7	13·9
Wet Zone	32·3	30·1

	Rainfall in inches. *Average.*	*Last Season.*
Dry Zone	45	30
Wet Zone	70	50

3. Agricultural labourers throughout the island receive approximately the same rate of wages, and in view of diversity in yield per acre the cost of production varies considerably.

4. The organization of cane breeding work on sound scientific lines is showing satisfactory results and a number of extremely promising seedlings are being subjected to extended trials. The Empire Marketing Board have made a preliminary free grant of £2,000 towards the extension of cane breeding work in Barbados, thus recognizing the value of the work which is being carried on by the Department of Science and Agriculture in Barbados.

5. The introduction of new sugar cane varieties involves a considerably greater period of time than is generally understood. For instance the Department is now engaged in developing seedlings which were crossed in October, 1927, first reaped at Codrington in 1929 and after further selection were reaped again in March, 1931.

6. The most promising, which indeed show very considerable promise, cannot be planted till November 1931 or reaped until 1933. It is thus seen that six years is the shortest time for the preliminaries of a new commercial variety. Even then it may happen that such a variety has not been subjected to sufficiently varying climatic conditions, and considering the high sucrose content of the sugar canes of Barbados it cannot be expected that improved varieties can be produced merely as a matter of course.

7. It is gratifying to report that the measures which Government adopted for the control of the pink bollworm, the chief menace to the cotton industry, have been entirely successful and although during the latter part of the season a few minor isolated outbreaks of the pest were notified these were all in one vicinity and were

probably due to the work of those few moths which evaded the rigorous treatment to which all imported cotton seed is subjected.

8. There is no reason to doubt that the close season for cotton of four months which it is proposed to impose each year will assist cotton planters in securing a successful harvest. The cotton grown in the island is of one variety only, viz., that known as Sea Island Cotton, the Barbados product ranking first of all cottons in length of staple, fineness, as well as return per acre. Material made from this cotton is of superior quality, competing rather with silk and linen than ordinary cotton, and its manufacture requires special machinery. The public desire for cheapness rather than quality tends to restrict the market for the superior article in England, and British manufacturers complain of accumulating stocks and suggest reduction in production. It is significant that in spite of this Barbados seems to be able to dispose satisfactorily of its annual output.

9. The formation of a Co-operative Produce Marketing Association, for which the Department of Agriculture was largely instrumental, and the revision of the law relating to Credit Societies promise practical help to peasant producers who are willing to help themselves. Every effort is being made to found on a sound basis Parish Agricultural Education Societies for the general betterment of peasant agriculture and as a means by which the Department can help these people to obtain the full benefit of the experience which has been gained by the trial shipments of tomatoes and sweet potatoes to Canada.

10. The energies of the small cultivator are being encouraged towards the production of food cash crops, rather than the continued production of sugar cane on lots too small to be profitable to himself.

11. A new Session of the Legislature was opened on the 31st of March, 1931. The general elections of members of the House of Assembly were held on the 30th of March for the election of 24 representatives. Two members of the old Assembly did not seek re-election. Twenty members were returned unopposed, and there were contested elections in two of the twelve constituencies. The new Assembly consists of 21 old members and 3 new members, one old member having lost his seat. The total number of persons whose names were included in the electoral rolls at the time of the election was 5,155. The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 8 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 18 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last census returns.

12. In April, 1930, Barbados was honoured by the visit of seven ships of the Pacific Squadron of the United States Navy under the

ommand of Rear Admiral F. H. Schofield, who flew his flag in the battleship *New Mexico*. Besides visits from H.M. Ships *Wistaria* and *Delhi* in March and October, 1930, during January, February and March, 1931, the Island received visits from Vice Admiral V. H. S. Haggard, C.B., C.M.G., Commander-in-Chief of the America and West Indies Station in his Flagship, H.M.S. *Despatch*, followed by H.M.S. *Scarborough*, H.M. Canadian Destroyer *Champlain* and Her Netherlands Majesty's Destroyer *Van Galen*, while for the first time after many years, Barbados had the pleasure of welcoming ships of His Majesty's Atlantic Fleet. These comprised H.M.S. *Nelson*, the Flagship of the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Sir Michael H. Hodges, K.C.B., C.M.G., M.V.O., H.M.S. *Hawkins*, Flagship of the Rear-Admiral in Command of the Second Cruiser Squadron, Rear-Admiral the Honourable Matthew R. Best, C.B., D.S.O., M.V.O., with the Cruisers *York*, *Adventure*, *Norfolk* and *Dorsetshire*.

13. The island has remained free from malaria since October, 1929, the epidemic which began in August, 1927, having ended as abruptly as it appeared. Precautionary measures, however, have not been relaxed now the immediate danger has been removed and the Health Commissioners of the various parishes are well aware of the advantages of continued vigilance.

14. A grant of £4,000 from the Colonial Development Fund for the establishment of a Central Venereal Diseases Clinic has been approved, and there may be a prospect of assistance being also granted towards the institution of smaller clinics in the several parishes when detailed proposals are presented. A loan from the Fund of the sum of £16,000 has been granted on favourable terms towards the improvement of the public market. Application for assistance from the Fund has also been made for the improvement of the water supply. The most important part of this scheme is the installation of a new pumping plant at Bowmanston Station and the erection of a new reservoir at Golden Ridge, the total estimated cost being £59,000. An application for assistance towards the execution of the programme of arterial road restoration prescribed by the Central Road Board Act is still under consideration by the Colonial Development Advisory Committee.

15. In Barbados the administration of local affairs is vested in parochial authorities and boards, mainly independent of administrative control, which receive from the Central Government either grants-in-aid for specific purposes or the funds necessary for the conduct of public institutions. Their operations are directed mainly towards the maintenance of health and highways as well as the provision of adequate means of sustenance for the poor. Parochial revenue amounted collectively during the year to £136,064, and expenditure to £121,966. The total cost of poor relief was £79,233, of which £38,893 was raised and expended by parochial authorities. Special grants from general revenue to the Parishes

for highway purposes amounted to £5,450 in excess of those for which the law provides, and the total expended by Parochial Commissioners was £32,625.

16. No changes have occurred in currency. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation, and British silver is legal tender to an unlimited amount. There is in addition a dollar paper currency issued by the banks, the exchange value being fixed at $4·80 to the pound sterling.

17. British imperial standard weights and measures are everywhere employed.

II.—FINANCE.

Revenue and Expenditure.

1. The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1926–27	387,462	418,711
1927–28	414,884	481,252
1928–29	441,732	459,626
1929–30	453,802	450,696
1930–31	404,555	429,143

In these amounts are included receipts and payments on account of loans. If these amounts are deducted, the ordinary revenue for the year 1930–31 was £395,532, as compared with £407,042 for 1929–30, and the ordinary expenditure £420,120, compared with £403,936. Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve funds set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1931, was £9,541.

Special Funds.

	£	s.	d.
Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...	53,879	5	4
Water Boat Renewal Fund	12,185	19	0
Red Cross Fund	1,779	17	11
Public Officers' Security Fund	10,054	12	8
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	27,815	14	6
Road Reconstruction Fund	29,827	8	3
	£235,542	17	8

Revenue.

2. The revenue for 1930–31 shows a decrease of £49,247 under that of the previous year, the principal heads showing decreases being "Reimbursements" £39,278; "Customs" £10,316. The increase under all heads was £6,862, while the decreases totalled £56,108. The decreases are due generally to fluctuations in business.

Expenditure.

3. The expenditure for 1930–31, excluding loan disbursements, was £420,120, an increase of £16,184 as compared with the previous year. The total expenditure for the year was £21,553 less than in 1929–30.

4. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads "Police," "Education," "Medical," and "Water Works." The expenditure under these heads was as follows:—

			Compared with 1929–30.
	£		£
Police ...	... 45,490,	a decrease of ...	26
Education	... 51,634,	an increase of ...	1,035
Medical ...	... 46,508,	an increase of ...	209
Water Works	... 39,366,	a decrease of ...	5,656
	£182,998		

The total expenditure on these four departments, £182,998, represents 42 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

5. Special expenditure on restoration of roads amounted to £29,152, and in the anti-malaria campaign £1,280. The question as to the proportion of road charges involved in the work of reconstruction now being carried out which may properly be allocated to loan funds had not been finally decided at the end of the year.

6. As compared with the previous year there was a net decrease in expenditure of a sum of £21,553.

Public Debt.

7. The Public Debt at the 31st March, 1931, was £663,000, the Sinking Fund on that date being £345,517, as compared with £330,655 in 1930. The Loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1931, were as follows:

Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.*			*Amount outstanding.*			*Sinking Fund.*			*Date Redeemable.*
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Water Works Loan Act, 1894	375,000	0	0	375,000	0	0	298,871	13	10	15th March, 1942.
Public Works Loan Act, 1887	92,000	0	0	14,000	0	0	13,219	11	9	November, 1932.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	8,942	2	10	£11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Act, 1917, Special Loan Act, 1917 (No. 2), Special Loan Act, 1920, and Special Loan (Amendment) Act, 1922, Special Loan Act, 1922	147,000	0	0	147,000	0	0	23,630	1	4	£35,000 August, 1964. £30,000 February, 1965. £40,000 March, 1968. £25,000 April, 1969. £17,000 May, 1969.
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000	0	0	90,000	0	0	854	0	2	£25,000 October, 1975. £65,000 Annual Treasury Bills.
	£741,000	0	0	£663,000	0	0	£345,517	9	11	

Government Savings Bank.

8. On the 31st December, 1930, there were 10,634 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £537,445. The value of the invested funds was £673,861. The figures for 1929 were: deposits £539,102, invested funds £675,387, and number of depositors 10,140. The number of depositors shows an increase of 494, and the total amount to their credit a decrease of £1,657.

An amendment to the Savings Bank Act passed in 1929 authorized the writing off to Profit and Loss Account of all accounts whose balances were less than one dollar with which no transaction had taken place for a period of five years. Under this amendment 1,464 accounts were closed, the total amount written off being £119 15s. 3d.

The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

9. This Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows:—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman, ex officio, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The Staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1931, after paying income tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan, and salaries, etc., amounted to £6,950.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1931, was £203,225, as compared with £196,813 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £2,685, as compared with £2,397 for the previous year.

Loans and interest outstanding at 31st May, 1931, which are secured as a first lien against the land of the several borrowers, are due as under:—

	Loans due.			*Interest unpaid*		
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*
1921 loans due from 13 borrowers	23,333	6	11½	1,020 1,297	0 18	0 2
1924 ,, ,, ,, 1 borrower	450	0	0	54	0	0
1925 ,, ,, ,, 4 borrowers	5,906	17	2	873	13	0
1926 ,, ,, ,, 8 ,, ...	6,306	8	2	797	2	6½
1927 ,, ,, ,, 1 borrower	200	0	0	30	0	0
1928 ,, ,, ,, 12 borrowers	5,284	11	9½	345	19	1
1929 ,, ,, ,, 45 ,, ...	28,585	16	11	1,970	0	11½
1930 ,, ,, ,, 58 ,, ...	33,310	19	9	1,486	18	0½
1931 ,, ,, ,, 104 ,, ...	84,688	12	4	1,226	16	4½
	£188,066	13	1	£9,102	8	2

III.—PRODUCTION.

Agriculture.

1. *Sugar.*—According to Customs returns for the year 1930, 48,405 tons of vacuum pan crystals, 2,040 tons of muscovado sugar, and 9,085,307 wine gallons of molasses, equal at 110 gallons per puncheon to 82,594 puncheons of molasses of all grades, were exported. The value of these exports, £778,772, was made up as follows :—

Sugar.	*Tons.*	*Value.* £	
Dark Crystals	48,355	451,311	
Muscovado	2,040	20,941	
White Crystals	50	900	
	50,445		£473,152

Molasses.	*Gallons.*	*Value.* £	
Fancy	8,163,338	289,118	
Choice	384,827	12,026	
Vacuum pan	537,142	4,476	
	9,085,307		£305,620
			£778,772

The following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto) of the exports for the past five years :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1926	64,431
1927	72,301
1928	78,973
1929	82,298
1930	75,182

Sugar-cane production as distinct from sugar produced has been as follows :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1926	760,525
1927	843,160
1928	913,216
1929	954,656
1930	615,000

It is estimated that approximately 35,000 acres are under sugar-cane annually.

The average prices obtained for sugar and its by-products for the last five years are as follows;—

	1926.			*1927.*			*1928.*			*1929.*			*1930.*		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sugar, per ton ...	12	5	0	15	5	0	13	9	0	11	0	6	9	7	7
Molasses, per gallon			9			11			10			7			8
Rum, per gallon ...		2	1		2	1		1	11½		1	11½		1	11½

The value and destination of sugar and molasses shipped from the Colony was as follows :—

	Sugar.	*Molasses.*
	£	£
United Kingdom	23,553	3,934
Canada	436,210	220,474
Newfoundland	23	18,899
United States of America ...	—	62,275
Holland	924	—
Elsewhere	12,442	38

The value of these commodities exported was in the case of sugar less than in 1929 by £249,237, and in the case of molasses more by £71,803.

2. *Cotton.*—The total number of acres planted in cotton for the season 1929-30 was 272, and the approximate total yield was 99,446 lb. of seed cotton, the general yield of the Island being 366 lb. seed cotton per acre. The lint obtained totalled 25,426 lb.

From the Customs returns it is ascertained that for the year from 1st October 1929 to the 30th September 1930, there were exported 46 bales of lint weighing 25,426 lb. valued at £3,019.

IV.—TRADE AND ECONOMICS.

1. The value of the total trade of the Colony as well as that of imports and exports is shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1926	2,155,167	1,287,161	3,442,328
1927	2,300,108	1,603,531	3,903,639
1928	2,349,159	1,531,265	3,880,424
1929	2,039,601	1,287,300	3,326,901
1930	1,731,786	1,062,916	2,794,702

2. The value of goods imported and entered for transhipment was £15,483 less than in 1929. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	£
1926	133,966
1927	167,869
1928	185,863
1929	196,654
1930	181,171

3. Imports during 1930 as compared with 1929 show a decrease of £307,815. The principal decreases of imports are seen in the following :—Apparel £4,460 ; Bags and sacks, empty, £12,640 ; Boots, Shoes and Slippers £3,196 ; Butter £11,106 ; Motor Car parts £5,149 ; Oilmeal and Oilcake £8,088 ; Bran and Pollard £4,869 ; Cotton Manufactures, Other, £5,212 ; Coal £6,342 ; Fish, Dried, Salted and Smoked £15,759 ; Corn, Barley, and Wheat £4,293 ; Cornmeal and Maize £8,835 ; Flour, Wheaten or Rye, £23,069 ; Rice £34,600 ; Manures, all kinds, £5,874 ; Pork Salted £3,357 ; Machinery, all kinds, £24,121 ; Iron and Steel Manufactures £3,674 ; Oil, Residue, £8,129 ; Wood and Timber : White Pine, Spruce, etc., £7,636 ; Shingles £8,194 ; Wool and Woollen Manufactures £4,055.

The principal increases occurred in Cotton piece-goods £3,543 ; Gasolene £3,401 ; and Parcel Post £4,305.

For the five years prior to 1930 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 27,760 tons. In 1930 the number of tons taken was 9,244. The following figures relate to the export of coal during the last five years :—

	Steamships.	*Tons of coal.*
1926	150	32,702
1927	127	26,786
1928	105	26,411
1929	101	22,008
1930	56	9,224

4. The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin whence comes the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
	%	%	%	%	%
United Kingdom	30·9	33·5	35·4	33·9	33·8
Canada	20·5	19·3	20·7	18·7	15·5
Other parts of the British Empire	18·5	18·5	17·2	17·6	19·3
United States of America ...	21·6	19·9	17·3	19·6	19·7
Other Foreign Countries ...	8·5	8·8	9·4	10·2	11·7

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1930, exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	582,244
Canada	286,583
Other parts of the British Empire	313,843
United States of America	340,908
Other Foreign Countries	203,208

5. Total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, Drink, etc.	654,159
Raw Materials	265,172
Manufactured Articles	745,597
Miscellaneous	61,858
	£1,726,786
Specie	5,000
	£1,731,786

6. The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada. £	*U.S.A.* £
Boots and Shoes	8,078	1,420
Butter	1,970	196
Oilmeal (cattle food)	7,162	36,880
Coal	—	17,252
Cornmeal	—	17,702
Fish (salted)	21,636	91
Flour	65,833	21,794
Oats	8,891	—
Manures	37,846	2,666
Salt Beef	289	7,188
Pork	12,797	18,788
Wood (various)	32,620	18,041

7. The total value of exports was £1,062,916, of which £837,596 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £225,322 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows :—

	1930.		*1929.*		*1928.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.* £	*Quantity.*	*Value.* £	*Quantity.*	*Value.* £
Sugar (tons) ...	50,444	473,152	65,517	722,389	62,659	875,239
Molasses (gals.) ...	9,085,307	305,620	8,035,779	233,813	7,229,181	288,699
Cotton (lb.) ...	25,426	3,029	8,858	728	14,249	1,680
Rum (gals.) ...	65,390	6,402	46,130	4,517	40,690	3,983

	1927.		*1926.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.* £	*Quantity.*	*Value.* £
Sugar (tons)	53,106	815,637	45,786	593,819
Molasses (gals.)	8,258,690	426,698	7,760,334	310,745
Cotton (lb.)	187,709	20,726	315,192	40,623
Rum (gals.)	22,425	2,336	18,692	1,947

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 194,091 gallons.

8. The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows :—

	£
Bay Rum	553
Biscuits	10,937
Cotton Seed Meal	3,492
Fruit (tamarind)	7,883
Hides and Skins	7,412
Lime, " building "	4,808
Manjak	358
Oils (edible)	477
Vegetables, fresh	10,169

9. The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years :—

	1926.	*1927.*	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	247,987	141,078	159,731	78,381	39,000
Canada	593,474	1,024,297	923,079	799,230	657,343
Other parts of the British Empire.	70,152	76,489	68,473	64,401	64,150
United States of America	61,756	58,279	59,148	58,221	68,680
Other Foreign Countries ...	15,008	11,887	15,698	11,455	8,050
Stores (ships)	—	976	640	479	371
	£988,377	£1,313,006	£1,226,769	£1,012,167	£837,594

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as compared with 1929 are :—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	—	3·0
Canada	—	0·5
Other parts of the British Empire	1·3	—
United States of America ...	2·4	—
Other Foreign Countries ...	—	0·2

Canada is still the largest purchaser of both sugar and molasses, the principal domestic products of the island, and will probably continue to be so. Freight rates, reciprocal trade relations, and marketing conditions are factors all of which tend increasingly to open still further the outlet for Colonial products in the markets of the Dominion.

V.—COMMUNICATIONS.

Shipping.

1. The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,121, with a net tonnage of 2,039,744 as compared with 1,104 vessels with a tonnage of 1,983,686 during the previous year. In addition two ships of war, ten yachts, and two seaplanes visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 3,503, while 3,510 were discharged. The estimated amount of money earned during the year as wages by seamen belonging to, and engaging in, the Colony for service of ships was £39,000 as compared with £47,000 for the previous year.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica, and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are the Harrison and the Leyland Lines from Liverpool direct and the Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from London fortnightly. The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) run a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados and Central American ports, calling at Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth on the return. The same Company operate the Surinam Line, a three-weekly service from Amsterdam calling at Dover, Madeira, Paramaribo, Demerara, Barbados, Trinidad, Venezuelan ports, Curaçao, Haiti, and New York ; when homeward bound, these vessels do not call at Barbados but, in addition to the above-named ports, touch at Boulogne. The Elders and Fyffes Line of steamers make fortnightly sailings from Avonmouth, calling at Barbados. The duration of the voyage from England is about 13 days, the return journey is usually accomplished in 11 days.

The Canadian National Steamships operate a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Bermuda, the Leeward Islands and Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados. The freight and passenger service commenced in December, 1928, with the sailing of the s.s. *Lady Nelson* from Halifax, N.S., on the 14th of that month. The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provide a fortnightly freight service between Halifax and Barbados. An irregular service is provided by freighters of the Canadian Transport Company ; these vessels sail from Vancouver, B.C.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy), the Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Ocean Service), and the Western Ocean Steamship Corporation. Ships of the Aluminium Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados *en route* to British and Dutch Guiana.

Railways.

2. A light railway 24 miles long runs through the southern Parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £12,750. The actual expenditure including extraordinary outlay was £12,256 and the actual revenue £8,342.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years :—

	1930.	*1929.*	*1928.*
Passengers	83,571	91,204	94,341
Horses	—	—	—
Mules	—	—	—
Asses	—	—	—
Cows	3	5	3
Calves	12	28	19
Sheep	36	32	14
Goats and Kids	19	37	29
Pigs	18	36	44
Dogs	21	33	34

	1930.			*1929.*			*1928*		
Goods :—	*T.*	*C.*	*Q.*	*T.*	*C.*	*Q.*	*T.*	*C.*	*Q.*
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses.	15,675	5	0	16,663	7	0	16,433	14	0
Canes	7,204	8	0	9,078	16	2	12,889	2	0
Fuel	232	7	2	156	8	2	231	8	0
Sundries	7,867	10	0	9,704	13	1	6,452	8	2
	30,979	10	2	35,603	5	1	36,006	12	2

Roads.

3. The island is a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of eleven Boards of Highways Commissioners.

Up to ten or fifteen years ago—before the advent of self-propelled vehicles—Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficient provision of funds, and the lack of skilled engineering assistance, led to rapid deterioration of the roads of the island.

As stated elsewhere in this report the island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied ; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 120 miles of main roads and approximately 300 miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use.

The first definite step towards relieving the situation was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct, the main roads radiating from Bridgetown. This step was based on a report of a Road Commission appointed by the Governor in 1925. The Commission thus appointed had the assistance of Mr. Maurice Ravenor, M.I.C.E., who estimated that the roads classified as main roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile. He also recommended that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the city of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the Parish of Saint Michael was transferred to the Central Road Board. An additional and urgent task was thus imposed upon the Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926–27, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1930–31, the sum of £115,677 has been spent on 52 miles of six of the seven arterial roads plus £63,003 from Government grants and Parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's parish.

In addition to the sum of £115,677 mentioned above, a sum of £3,150 was granted to the Board to oil and improve some nine miles of the seventh arterial road in the parish of Christ Church, which had recently been re-surfaced by the Parochial Authorities.

Postal, etc.

4. There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies, and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines :—

Harrison, Elders and Fyffes, Leyland, Royal Netherlands, Hamburg-America Line, proceeding to Great Britain, certain West Indian Colonies, Central America and Colon.

Canadian Nationals, proceeding to St. John, N.B., Halifax, Bermuda, British West Indian Colonies, and British Guiana.

Ocean Dominion, proceeding to St. John, N.B., Halifax, and certain West Indian Islands.

Ocean Dominion, proceeding to New York and certain West Indian Islands.

Bermuda and West Indies, proceeding to New York and certain West Indian Islands.

Western Line—Munson Steamship Line proceeding to New York and certain West Indian Islands.

In addition to the above, mails are forwarded by any other available lines.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below :—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*		*Seaplanes,*
	1929.	*1930.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1930.*
Mails for Barbados ...	489	525	9	4	1
Mails from Barbados ...	495	525	58	49	1

	1929.	*1930.*
Bags of mail despatched	4,956	5,480
Bags of mail received...	11,467	11,882
Bags of mail received in transit	4,856	4,053
Registered articles ...	94,922	91,275
Parcel-post packages...	66,482	61,370
Money orders issued ...	£11,034	£11,440
Money orders paid ...	£87,962	£78,668

VI.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

1. The Statutes of Barbados are, in the main, similar to those of England, and the Superior Courts are presided over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction is vested in two Judges of the Assistance Court of Appeal who are also Judges of the Petty Debt Court in Bridgetown and six Police Magistrates, four of whom in rural districts have jurisdiction in civil matters. From the decisions and judgments of the latter there lie appeals to the Assistant Court of Appeal composed of two Judges, the Registrar sitting with one Judge to hear appeals from the other Judge sitting as a Judge of the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown. Besides its appellate jurisdiction this Court possesses limited legal, equitable and probate jurisdiction. The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £13,466.

The following changes in the Judicial Establishments were effected during the year :—

(1) Reduction in the number of Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal from three to two. These Judges sit together to hear appeals and singly to hear original cases, causes, and matters in the original jurisdiction of the Court (£50 at Common Law, £500 in Equity).

(2) Automatic appointment as acting Chief Judge of one of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal, when the holder of the substantive office of Chief Judge is absent for short periods in the performance of duties as a Judge of the West Indian Court of Appeal.

(3) One of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal to be Registrar of Friendly Societies and the other Inspector of Prisons.

(4) Abolition of the judgeship of the Bridgetown Petty Debt Court and the transfer of the work of that Court to the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal, provision being made for appeals from the decision of a Judge in such matters to be heard by the other Judge and the Registrar.

(5) Increase of salaries of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal from £500 (two Judges) and £450 (one Judge) to £600 (two Judges, each per annum).

(6) Extension of the right of appeal from the Assistant Court of Appeal, Original Jurisdiction, to the Court of Error to include appeals from decisions on fact as well as on points of law.

(7) Reduction in the number of magistrates by one :—the parish of Saint Thomas being grouped with the parishes at present comprising District " F " and the parish of Saint James being added to District " E."

(8) Transfer of the duties of Coroner of District " A " from a Judge of the Assistant Court of Appeal to the two magistrates of that district.

(9) Increase in the salaries of magistrates from £400 (District " A ") and £385 (Country districts) to £500 each per annum.

Police.

The Police Force, under the command of an Inspector-General who is also Commandant of the Local Forces, consists of 408 officers and men. An efficient Band is attached to the Force. The Inspector-General of Police is charged also with the control of a fire brigade consisting of 25 men.

Prisons.

3. Glendairy Prison, in the Parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony. It is divided into two sections, one for each of the sexes, and is a highly efficient and well-conducted institution. Juvenile adult prisoners are classified and segregated from adults, and instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, cement work, baking, and other crafts. In regard to criminal statistics, prison records for 1930 show a further increase in the number of commitments, mainly on the male side, doubtless due to economic conditions. The following is a comparative statement of convictions for the last three years .—

	1928.	1929.	1930.
Total number of persons committed to prison	845	998	1,250
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	36	47	29
Daily average in prison (males)	125	137	153
Daily average in prison (females)	29	28	31
Police Court convictions	9,454	9,173	10,105
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	270	480	459
Convictions by Superior Court	49	54	59

A scheme for the after-care of discharged prisoners is conducted by the Prison Chaplain and the local branch of the Salvation Army. The Governor of the Prison is also a member of the After-care Committee.

VII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The works of importance carried out by the Public Works Department during the year 1930–31 have been as follows:—

1. The erection of a steel hand-worked slewing crane of 15 tons capacity.
2. The erection of a Tuberculosis Ward at the Lunatic Asylum.

VIII.—PUBLIC HEALTH.

The total population on the 31st of December, 1930, was estimated to be 172,182. The death-rate during the year was 23.08 per thousand of the population, and the birth-rate 32.67. The following are the figures for the last five years:—

	Birth-rate.	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*Death-rate.*
1926 ...	31·32 per 1,000	68·83	29·62 per 1,000.
1927 ...	31·59 ,, ,,	66·81	20·21 ,, ,,
1928 ...	33·76 ,, ,,	65·99	30·10 ,, ,,
1929 ...	32·04 ,, ,,	63·37	23·74 ,, ,,
1930 ...	32·67 ,, ,,	62·85	23·08 ,, ,,

The percentage of uncertified deaths was 2·4 per cent. in 1930 of the total, as compared with 3·3 per cent. in 1929 and 3 per cent. in 1928.

Under the age group 1–5 years the percentage of deaths was 47·90 of the total number of deaths. The rate of infant mortality for the past five years is as follows:—

	Infant deaths per 1,000 *births.*
1926	314
1927	201
1928	331
1929	239
1930	251

Malaria.—No cases have been notified since 17th October, 1929.

The Baby Welfare Clinic continues to do good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds, and strictest economy has to be maintained. A medical practitioner attends on Wednesdays to examine and prescribe for sick babies, and is paid £3 6s. 8d. per month. The Treasury grants £150 a year and the Saint Michael's Vestry £150. Private donations in cash during the year amounted to £10 17s. 6d. 336 infants were entered at the Clinic during the year; 59 of these died.

Dr. A. J. R. O'Brien, C.M.G., visited the Clinic on 12th March, 1930, and made the following minute:—

> "Visited the Clinic to-day. There is only one comment I have to make, and that is that it is a great pity there are not a dozen similar clinics in the Island. I don't think money is ever better spent than in this way."

The following table gives the principal causes of death, as compiled from the returns made under the Registration of Deaths Act:—

Causes.	*Actual number of deaths.*	*Rate per 1,000 of total mortality.*	*Rate per 1,000 of estimated population.*
Fevers:—			
Enteric	46	11	0·2
Malaria	3	—	—
Other (except puerperal)...	—	—	—
Bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhoea, and enteritis*...	704	178	4·1
Pneumonia and bronchitis†	202	51	1·2
Kidney diseases	282	71	1·6
Phthisis and other forms of tuberculosis ...	134	34	0·8
Diseases peculiar to early infancy... ...	312	79	1·8
Old age	182	46	1·1
Diseases of the heart	295	75	1·7
Syphilis‡	540	136	3·2
Diseases of the nervous system	299	76	1·7

The number of deaths from syphilis was 540 as compared with 556 recorded in 1929. The Central Venereal Disease Clinic attached to the General Hospital is given an annual grant of £1,200 a year.

The number of deaths from bowel complaints, including dysentery, diarrhoea, and enteritis, increased from 664 to 704. Of these deaths, 87 per cent. were of children under three years of age.

The following table gives the cases of enteric fever notified during the last five years:—

1926	441
1927	350
1928	194
1929	209
1930	190

During the last four years provision for the cost of free inoculation of contacts has been made in the Colonial Estimates.

---

* 87 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.

† 67 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.

‡ 84 per cent. of this were children under three years of age.

Six cases of leprosy were admitted and five re-admitted during the year to the Leper Asylum, and 8 patients were discharged conditionally.

At the end of the year, 111 patients remained at the Asylum. A scheme for the relief of discharged patients was, at the end of the year, still under consideration by the local branch of the Empire Leprosy Relief Association.

The number of inmates at the Mental Hospital at the end of the year was 506.

IX.—EDUCATION.

1. The schools of the island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, almost entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

2. There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 127 in 1930; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English Universities. The Cambridge Junior Local or the Lower Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board is also taken by pupils of both second and first grade schools.

3. In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1930 was 23,281 and the average attendance 16,330, a decrease of 93 and an increase of 613 respectively as compared with the figures for 1929.

4. To the number of second-grade schools no additions have been made during the year. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1930 was 370 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 172.

5. The three first-grade schools are Harrison College, and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendances at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1930 were 239 and 156 respectively. The Lodge School, in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 104, is the only school coming within the scope of the

education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. At this school attend a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

6. Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, a Barbadian, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. The College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but provision has been made for carrying on its courses until restoration, which is well under way, can be effected. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

7. The total grant for education purposes exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls in 1930 was £50,196, of which £1,284 was the cost of office staff, etc. ; £10,060 grants to first and second grade schools, £960 for University Education, and £35,547 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses.

8. School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in 5 schools, while 24 schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work, brush-making, etc. A cooking class has been started at two girls' schools.

9. Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924, (1924–31), 13 apprentices completed their first year's, 13 their second year's, 15 their third year's, 9 their fourth year's, and 9 their fifth year's courses. To these last nine the Education Board have issued certificates of competence as Journeymen Tradesmen on completion of their apprenticeship. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen, but probably neither this system nor the modicum of manual training obtainable at some of the schools is at present of more than ordinary benefit. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is left entirely to the assistance of men engaged in work themselves and is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc., during working hours. Masters and apprentices are paid from public funds, allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. 0d. a year.

The whole question of technical training in the schools is still under review by the Board of Education. The aptitude of the Barbadian as a skilled worker is abundantly in evidence, and it is by the development of this feature that he can hope to advance if, as may easily be the case, he should some day meet with disappointment in securing employment in Barbados of a kind sufficient to place him on a higher social plane than that from which, in the peculiar circumstances of life in his over-populated country, he may otherwise find it difficult to emerge. For the present the education system provides for each succeeding vacant junior clerkship in the Public Service a comparatively large number of well-educated candidates, of whom some have reached to the highest educational standards attainable locally, and many have for considerabie periods been unsuccessful in obtaining clerical appointments.

10. The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were 6 male and 6 female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 100 teachers, 58 male and 42 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 72 (37 male and 35 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant from the Government of £600. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education. Proposals for the adoption of a scheme for the medical and dental inspection of school children had not been finalized at the close of the year, and the details of these proposals have yet to be developed.

11. At the Boys' Industrial School and the Girls' Reformatory the number of inmates was 85 and 9 respectively. During the year the Salvation Army continued the after-care of youths and girls on discharge from these institutions, providing them with temporary accommodation, finding them employment when possible, and keeping in subsequent touch with them. Provision to meet the actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Salvation Army in connection with the scheme has now been included in the Colonial Estimates. In addition to school and religious instruction, boys are taught certain crafts, including carpentry, tailoring, and masonry, and are given instruction in agriculture—applicable to the requirements of plantations—and the care of animals. Under the instruction of a Seamstress Matron, girls at theReformatory make all the clothing required at the institution, and classes are held in plain and fancy work. Cooking is also taught.

The health at both institutions has been good.

X.—LANDS AND SURVEY.

The whole island of Barbados is fully developed and occupied. There are no waste lands. The total area of the Colony is 106,470 acres. Records respecting the size and numbers of holdings are not available. There are but 46 acres under forest timber. For many years the trees in this area have been protected by statute. The geological structure and surface features of Barbados were interestingly described in 1890 by Messrs. Harrison and Jukes Brown, who prepared also the only geological map of the island. No further geological survey, however, is contemplated.

XI.—LABOUR.

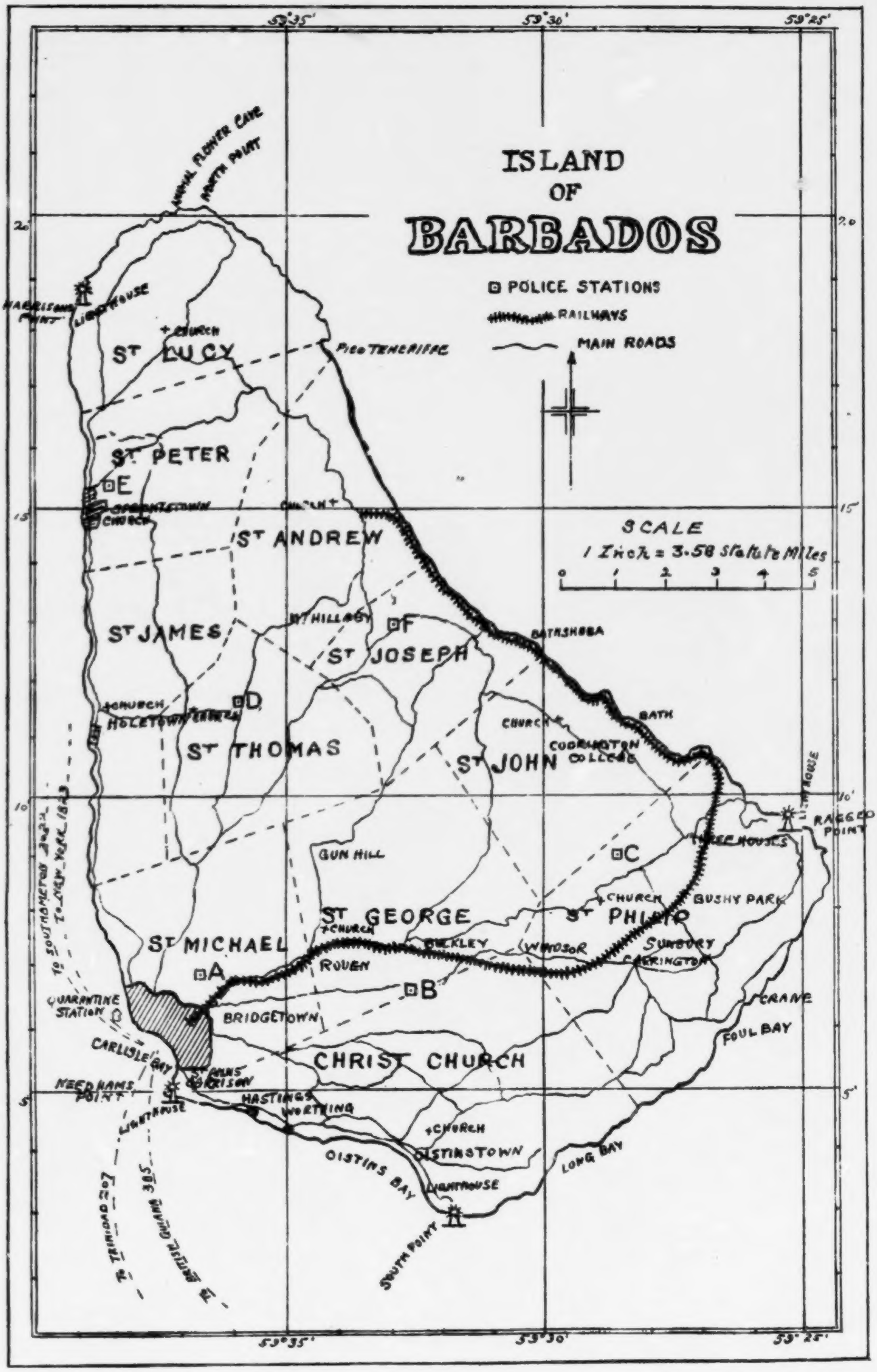
There is an abundant supply of labour available for the requirements of the Colony. Employment is offered chiefly on plantations and sugar factories, but a considerable number also work on the wharves and in the coaling business. There is no immigration of labour into the Colony.

XII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

Thirty-eight Acts were passed during the Legislative Session 1930–31 of which the following are important:—

1930–23—The Sugar Commission Act.
1930–27—The Agricultural Credit Societies (Amendment) Act.
1930–29—The Legitimacy Act.
1931–5—The Barbados Co-operative Produce Marketing Association Act.
1931–9—The Ballot Act.

15*th July*, 1931.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POLICE STATIONS
RAILWAYS
MAIN ROADS
SCALE
1 Inch = 3.58 Statute Miles
0 1 2 3 4 5
59°35'
59°30'
59°25'
20'
15'
10'
5'
ANIMAL FLOWER CAVE
NORTH POINT
HARRISONS POINT
LIGHTHOUSE
+CHURCH
ST LUCY
PICO TENERIFFE
ST PETER
E
SPEIGHTSTOWN
CHURCH
CHURCH +
ST ANDREW
ST JAMES
MT HILLABY
F
ST JOSEPH
BATHSHEBA
+CHURCH
HOLETOWN CHURCH
D
ST THOMAS
BATH
CHURCH +
CODRINGTON COLLEGE
ST JOHN
LIGHTHOUSE
RAGGED POINT
THREE HOUSES
C
GUN HILL
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CHAPTER I.

GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is twenty-one miles long by fourteen miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles with a population at the end of 1931 of 173,674. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed eighty settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629 in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for twenty-one years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle, and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663 and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force, and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies, while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find in it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados :—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics. . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

Unlike most of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession. The Government consists of a nominated Legislative Council of nine members and a House of Assembly of twenty-four members elected annually by the people on the basis of a moderate suffrage. The executive functions of the Government are vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Governor, Colonial Secretary, and Attorney-General, and such other persons as may be appointed by His Majesty the King, together with one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the Assembly nominated by the Governor. The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

CHAPTER II.

GOVERNMENT.

Barbados possesses a representative Legislature but not full responsible government. The Crown retains only the right of veto on legislation, but the Home Government retains the appointment and control of the public officers, except the Colonial Treasurer who is nominated annually by the House of Assembly and his appointment confirmed by the Governor in Executive Committee.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the King, and a House of Assembly of twenty-four members, elected annually on the basis of a moderate franchise. For electoral purposes the Island is divided into twelve constituencies, viz., the City of Bridgetown, and the eleven parishes of Saint Michael, Saint George, Christ Church, Saint Philip, Saint John, Saint Joseph, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint James, Saint Peter, and Saint Lucy, each of which returns two members to the General Assembly The qualifications of members and electors are regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2). During the year under review an Act was passed to amend the Law relating to Procedure at Elections of members to serve in the General Assembly or in the several Vestries of the Island. This Act, 1931 (No. 9), provides *inter alia* for the appointment of " presiding officers " to assist the Returning Officer in the performance of his duties.

The total number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls at the present time is 4,807, and is made up as follows :—

> Bridgetown, 770; Saint Michael, 1,424; Christ Church, 727; Saint George, 257; Saint Philip, 287; Saint John, 128; Saint Joseph, 134; Saint Andrew, 238; Saint Peter, 251; Saint Lucy, 123; Saint James, 221; Saint Thomas, 247.

The total at the time of the last election—March, 1931—was 5,155. The reduction is no doubt due to the number of persons who have lost their qualifications as the result of the general depression, from which the Island is still suffering. During the past year a Bill to extend the franchise from the present income qualification of £50 a year to £30 was passed by the House of Assembly, but was rejected on the third reading in the Legislative Council.

The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 7.6 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 17.0 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last (1921) census returns.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Executive Council appointed by the Crown, and consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, *ex-officio*, and two other members. The Executive Committee—appointed under the provisions of the Executive Committee Act, 1891 (No. 24)—consists of the members of the Executive Council, *ex-officio*, one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the House of Assembly, nominated annually by the Governor. This body introduces all money Votes, prepares the Estimates and initiates all Government measures.

Local government is in the hands of eleven Parish Boards or Vestries. The Vestry is elected annually under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2) and the Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9). The Rector of the parish is *ex-officio* Chairman of the Vestry. The functions of the Vestry include the appointment of Guardians for the care of the sick and poor, of

Commissioners of Health for the control of sanitation, and of Highway Commissioners for the upkeep of roads. To provide funds for these purposes the Vestries levy rates on lands and houses, and taxes on trade, vehicles, draught animals, etc.

CHAPTER III.

POPULATION.

The population on 31st December, 1931, was estimated to be 173,674—76,374 being males and 97,300 females. The increase over the estimated total for 1930 is 1,492 or 0.9 per cent., and is made up as follows :—

Natural increase, births exceeding deaths by ...	365
and immigration exceeding emigration by ...	1,127
	1,492

Estimates of population so calculated have usually been found to be exaggerated when a census is taken.

Based on the returns given in the last census (1921) the population is made up as follows :—

	Per cent.
White	7
Black	71
Mixed	22

The last census was taken in 1921; therefore the figures given in the last paragraph, as well as this, are only approximations. The tendency for large numbers of the urban population to drift into the metropolitan parish of Saint Michael is very pronounced, and has been much encouraged during the last two decades by the indiscriminate dividing and selling or letting of land lots which was not controlled until 1928. The following shows, with as reasonable a degree of accuracy as is expected in such approximations, the estimated numbers in each parish as well as the density per square mile.

Parish.	*Estimated Population.*	*Density.*
Saint Michael	61,500	4,108
Christ Church	21,500	962
Saint George	14,000	831
Saint Philip	15,000	638
Saint John	10,000	744
Saint James	10,500	861
Saint Thomas	7,500	564
Saint Peter	9,000	692
Saint Lucy	8,500	625
Saint Joseph	8,000	851
Saint Andrew	8,500	626

The average density per square mile for the Island is 1,048.

Marriages.

There were 949 marriages performed during 1931, 676 by the Church of England, 78 by the Wesleyans, 26 by the Moravians, 13 by the Roman Catholics, 27 were Civil and the remainder divided between 19 other denominations. Compared with last year this total shows a decrease of 13.8 per cent.

The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 10.98.

Illiterates.

The illiterate percentage is 15.07 as against 17.71 last year.

Births and Deaths.

The following are the figures for the last five years :—

Year.	*Births.* *No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*Deaths.* *No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Percentage uncertified.*
1927	5,317	31·59	66·81	3,401	20·21	4·3
1928	5,672	33·76	65·99	5,057	30·01	3·0
1929	5,421	32·04	63·37	4,016	23·74	3·3
1930	5,596	32·67	62·85	3,954	23·08	2·4
1931	4,853	28·06	60·46	4,488	25·95	2·0

Infantile Mortality.

The infantile mortality rate has increased from 251 last year to 298. The highest rate in the parishes is 404 in Saint James, while the lowest is 179 in Saint Andrew. The rate for Bridgetown and Saint Michael is 313.

Immigration and Emigration.

Each year of the past decade, with the exception of 1923 and 1928, shows an increase of immigration over emigration. This increase in 1931 amounted to 1,127, the average net increase for each year being 972. Statistics are not available to show other details of the migration of the population.

CHAPTER IV.

HEALTH.

General, Principal Causes of Death, etc.

The climate is salubrious and semi-tropical. The " maximum mean " temperature varies between 82° F. in the cool months to nearly 88° F. in the hot season, the " minimum mean " being between 70° F. and 73° F. The Island is a natural health resort.

Malaria made its appearance in the Island in October, 1927; but since 17th October, 1929, no new case has occurred, and no anopheline mosquito larvae have been found since January, 1930.

The causes of death are classified in accordance with the International list of Causes of Deaths as adopted for use in England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

The following are the principal diseases or groups of diseases responsible for the mortality.

Causes.	*Total No. of deaths.*	*Age groups.*		
		Under 5.	5 *to* 60.	60 *and over.*
Dysentery	110	49	21	40
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	118	1	110	7
Syphilis	653	545	92	16
Cancer	119	1	54	64
Pellagra	178	2	96	80
Diseases of the nervous system...	337	23	128	186
Diseases of the circulatory system.	447	1	149	297
Diseases of the respiratory system	278	159	84	35
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	716	597	27	92
Other diseases of the digestive system.	107	54	36	17
Nephritis*	289	45	140	104
Diseases of early infancy* ...	282	282	—	—
Old age	282	—	1	281

* Probably largely due to diet deficiency.

There were five accidents with relation to employment : two in quarrying stone, two by vehicles, one by fall from a ladder. No other deaths were due to "occupational causes," nor can work on estates or in factories be considered to have any appreciable effect on the death-rate.

Treatment of the Sick, Medical Assistance, etc.

A hospital with an X-ray department is maintained in Bridgetown by the Government and controlled by a Board of Directors. The surgical wards are excellently equipped and work of a very high order is done. Patients from any parish, sent in accordance with very liberal rules, are received and treated free. There are also pay-wards of two grades attached. The medical staff consists of three Resident Surgeons and nine Visiting Surgeons (two of whom are Ophthalmic and one Dental), a Matron, an Assistant Matron, a Tutor Sister, a Theatre Sister, and a Pay-Ward Sister, all English ; and seventy Nurses.

The Government also maintains a well organized Mental Hospital and a Leper Hospital. Treatment on recognized up-to-date lines is carried out at both these institutions. Persons who were inmates of the Leper Hospital and have been discharged as cured are assisted from Government funds if found to be in need.

Each parish maintains an almshouse. These eleven almshouses, besides being places of refuge for the destitute poor, are in most, if not all, instances practically cottage hospitals. Isolation hospitals are also provided by each parish and are available for the treatment of infectious or contagious diseases.

In each parish there is a Parochial Medical Officer (in Saint Michael, two) whose duty it is to attend the sick poor, either in their homes or at the almshouse free, or at reduced fees. Dispensaries for the cheap supply of medicine are maintained in seven of the eleven parishes; in the other four the Parochial Medical Officers are paid extra to supply medicine free.

A Baby Welfare Clinic is conducted voluntarily by a committee of ladies, assisted by a medical practitioner, and does very good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds. The Government and Vestry of Saint Michael each grant the organization £150 per annum. Any expenditure beyond this has to be made up from donations and subscriptions by private individuals, etc.

Venereal Diseases Clinics have been established at the General Hospital by the Government, and by the Parochial authorities in Saint George, Saint John, Saint James, Saint Thomas, and Saint Joseph. The treatment is free in nearly every instance, but complaint is made that the patients will not continue it sufficiently long for cures to be effected.

Organization.

The organization for public health work consists of a Chief Medical Officer, the General Board of Health, and eleven Boards of Commissioners of Health (one for each parish). The Chief Medical Officer is appointed for a period of three years and the Boards annually. The Port Health Officer with an Assistant Port Health Officer are responsible for all quarantine measures.

The General Board of Health employ six inspectors for general work throughout the Island, and the Boards of Commissioners of Health employ seventy, twenty-four being in Saint Michael and twelve in Christ Church.

Drainage Works, etc.

There are very few swampy places in Barbados, and it has not been considered necessary for the Government or parishes to undertake drainage works.

CHAPTER V.

HOUSING.

Wage-earners.

The general standard of sanitary arrangements of the cottages of the wage-earning population and peasant proprietors is very low. These cottages, which are almost invariably constructed of wood with shingled roofs, are small, and generally much overcrowded. About 66 per cent. of the entire population of the Island lives in cottages of less than three rooms, the kitchen, if there is one, or other arrangements for cooking, being separate. Very few are provided with sanitary arrangements which can be considered even moderately satisfactory. The letting separately of rooms in a building is not extensively practised except in certain parts of

Bridgetown. Labourers on plantations and in factories live near the estates in small detached cottages often owned by themselves but on rented land. Frequent inspections and the enforcement of the sanitary laws are the means relied on for dealing with the primitive sanitary arrangements in slum areas. About 75 per cent. of the occupants own the cottages or houses in which they live, but few own the land on which the buildings stand.

Better class of houses, etc.

The better class of house is well constructed and is usually supplied with a water-borne system of sewage disposal with which little, if any, fault can be found. These houses are also in almost every case connected with the Government waterworks system which furnishes a very pure, continuous, piped supply under satisfactory pressure. There are 559 standposts at which good drinking water can be obtained free of charge. Except in localities which are difficult of access, it is rare that any dwelling is situated farther than half a mile from a standpost.

CHAPTER VI.

PRODUCTION.

Apart from very inconsiderable quantities of mineral oil and allied products, such as manjak and tar sand, and sea island cotton, production of which has of late materially diminished, the wealth of Barbados is derived entirely from the products of the sugar-cane, of which approximately 35,000 acres are reaped annually, and as the sugar-cane occupies the ground from fourteen to eighteen months in the case of plant canes, and from two to three years in those districts where the rainfall allows planters to ratoon their crops, of necessity the system of agriculture has been developed to ensure the maximum production of sugar, regarding any other crop which may be grown as " catch crops " between the reaping of one sugar crop and the planting of the next.

Indeed with its population of more than a thousand to the square mile entirely dependent on the harvest of the 67,000 arable acres which the Island contains it is difficult to name any agricultural product other than sugar which could support a tithe of this population; and the very size of the population which has to be fed, watered, educated, and generally cared for, limits the introduction and use of those mechanical methods which have been devised, for the most part, for the development of those wide territories where production is limited by lack of man power.

Three types of sugar are produced, namely, dark crystals of 96° polarization, muscovado sugar, and fancy molasses, and the following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto at 330 wine gallons to the long ton) of the production for the past six years :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1926	69,931
1927	77,801
1928	84,473
1929	87,798
1930	82,682
1931	61,531
1932	101,500 (estimate)

Each of the above figures of production includes 5,500 tons estimated as the annual local consumption of sugar.

There are no large units of production such as the "Centrals" of Cuba in Barbados and the plantations vary from 500 acres downwards, and their sugar-canes are manufactured either into fancy molasses by windmills or small steam plants, or into muscovado sugar by steam plants, or into dark crystals, by larger factories, of which the largest has a capacity of only 8,000 tons.

The extremely low cost of production which, apart from Java and Cuba, compares favourably with any other sugar-producing country in the world is very largely due to the plentiful supply of labour, and in spite of the small rainfall and correspondingly low tonnage the majority of plantations have been able to carry on during the period of depression.

It may be said without fear of contradiction that Barbados canes are the sweetest in the world and this very high standard is entirely due to the scientific production of new varieties during the past twenty-five years.

Even with its teeming population the supply of skilled agricultural labour is steadily decreasing due to a general drift to the towns, such as has taken place in most other countries, and Barbados is faced with the problem of creating employment for an ever increasing number of townsmen from the efforts of a correspondingly decreasing number of producers.

There is no labour recruiting, such as is known in other tropical Colonies. Each plantation has a varying number of located labourers who are required to work for a certain period of each week on the plantation which in return supplies them with land for a house and for the cultivation of their own domestic crops, such as yams, sweet potatoes, and eddoes. All agricultural labourers are of non-European descent.

Sugar controls the standard of living of all classes and during periods of low prices, such as are at present prevalent, or after a poor crop such as that produced in 1931 following on the drought of the previous year, although few cases of actual want have been noticeable, the standard of living necessarily suffers.

During the past decade a certain number of large estates have been broken up and sold out in small holdings, the owners of which are at present in possession of the following acreages :—

	Acres.
Holdings of less than 1 acre	3,514
Holdings between 1 and 3 acres	6,450
Holdings between 3 and 5 acres	1,800
Holdings more than 5 acres	2,185
Total ...	13,949

Unfortunately, either owing to the fact that the original purchase price has been uneconomic or because the plot is too small (five acres is regarded as the minimum on which a man can maintain himself and family), these cut-up plantations have generally proved a serious loss in capital value to Barbados in that their production has diminished very considerably.

Recently, however, efforts have been made to introduce more suitable crops than sugar for peasant cultivators and the formation of a Co-operative Marketing Association assisted by a loan of £500 from Government combined with the formation of a series of District Agricultural Societies has allowed the smaller farmer to divert his energies into channels which produce quicker and larger returns than he might expect from the cultivation of the sugar-cane.

Barbados, unlike the majority of West Indian Islands, is fortunate from the market-gardener's point of view, in having a town population of some 30,000 which require ground provisions and vegetables all the year round, and although considerable success has already attended the formation of these District Agricultural Societies there is still room for enormous development before the creation of an export trade becomes imperative.

CHAPTER VII.

COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Colony as well as that of imports and exports is shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1927	2,300,108	1,603,531	3,903,639
1928	2,349,159	1,531,265	3,880,424
1929	2,039,601	1,287,300	3,326,901
1930	1,731,786	1,062,916	2,794,702
1931	1,491,644	1,064,051	2,555,695

The value of goods imported and entered for transhipment was £26,563 less than in 1930. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	£
1927	167,869
1928	185,863
1929	196,654
1930	181,171
1931	154,608

Imports during 1931 as compared with 1930 show a decrease of £240.142. The principal decreases of imports are seen in the following :—bags and sacks, empty, £12,680 ; boots, shoes, and slippers, £7,560 ; motor car tyres, £2,975 ; oilmeal and oilcake. £12,178 ; cement, £2,693 ; cotton piece-goods, £9,038 ; cotton manufactures, other, £8,213 ; fish, dried, salted, smoked, £10,688 ; cornmeal and maize, £3,026 ; flour, wheaten or rye, £8,556 ; rice, £25,715 ; haberdashery and millinery, £3,299 ; hats and bonnets, £4,151 ; hardware, £3,973 ; manures, all kinds, £21,699 ; bacon and hams, £2,175 ; beef, salted, £3,204 ; pork, £12,930 ; machinery, all kinds, £13,262 ; oil, edible, £6,023 ; oil, residue, £10,008 ; seed, cotton, £9.700 ; silk manufactures, £4,238 ; soap, common, £4,676 ; paper, writing, wrapping, etc., £[illegible],014 ; wood and timber, white pine, spruce, etc., £6,155 ; pitch pine, £3,989 ; shingles, £4,188 ; wood manufactures, other kinds, £5,993 ; wool and woollen manufactures, £2,112 ; parcel post, £8,273.

The principal increases occurred in—animals, living, £5,155 ; motor cars and motor vehicles, £5,223 ; bran and pollard, £2,824 ; coal, £3.316 ; beans and peas, £3,083 ; iron and steel manufactures, £5,038 ; wood, staves and shooks, £9,697.

For the five years prior to 1931 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 23,426 tons. In 1931 the number of tons taken was 7,143. The following figures relate to the export of coal during the last five years :—

Year.	*Steamships.*	*Tons of coal.*
1927	127	26,786
1928	105	26,411
1929	101	22,008
1930	56	9,224
1931	33	7,143

The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin whence comes the largest proportion of imports into the Colony.

The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade.

	1927.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	33·5	35·4	33·9	33·8	34·7
Canada	19·3	20·7	18·7	15·5	17·7
Other parts of the British Empire	18·5	17·2	17·6	19·3	18·2
United States of America ...	19·9	17·3	19·6	19·7	18·8
Other foreign countries ...	8·8	9·4	10·2	11·7	10·6

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1931, exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	516,603
Canada	262,942
Other parts of the British Empire	271,094
United States of America	279,891
Other foreign countries	158,439

Total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	561,734
Raw materials	161,265
Manufactured articles	704,696
Miscellaneous	61,274
	£1,488,969
Specie	2,675
	£1,491,644

The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	2,372	1,018
Butter	1,353	547
Oilmeal (cattle food)	20,757	11,107
Coal	—	13,230
Cornmeal	242	13,863
Fish (salted)	16,036	—
Flour	56,247	11,953
Oats	25,115	—
Manures	13,002	18,053
Salt beef	910	3,142
Pork	8,221	11,907
Wood (various)	26,289	14,052

The total value of exports was £1,064,051, of which £852,088 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £211,963 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows :—

	1931.		*1930.*		*1929.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£
Sugar (tons) ...	34,422	360,639	50,444	473,152	65,517	722,389
Molasses (gals.) ...	7,790,451	426,073	9,085,307	305,620	8,035,779	233,813
Cotton (lb.) ...	336,899	21,056	25,426	3,029	8,858	728
Rum (gals.) ...	56,683	5,314	65,390	6,402	46,130	4,517

	1928.		*1927.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Sugar (tons)	62,659	875,239	53,106	815,637
Molasses (gals.)	7,229,181	288,699	8,258,690	426,698
Cotton (lb.)	14,249	1,680	187,709	20,726
Rum (gals.)	40,690	3,983	22,425	2,336

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 182,228 gallons.

The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows :—

	£
Bay Rum	403
Biscuits	6,699
Cotton Seed Meal	2,211
Fruit (tamarind)	5,202
Hides and Skins	4,100
Lime, " Building "	6,245
Manjak	308
Oils (edible)	1,824
Vegetables, fresh	9,235

The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years :—

	1927.	*1928.*	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	141,078	159,731	78,381	39,000	43,183
Canada	1,024,297	923,079	799,230	657,343	619,359
Other Parts of the British Empire	76,489	68,473	64,401	64,150	67,116
United States of America... ...	58,279	59,148	58,221	68,680	113,680
Other foreign countries	11,887	15,698	11,455	8,050	8,403
Stores (ships)	976	640	479	371	347
	£1,313,006	1,226,769	1,012,167	837,594	852,088

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as compared with 1930 are :—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	.4	—
Canada	—	5.8
Other parts of the British Empire ...	.1	—
United States of America	5.2	—
Other foreign countries	.1	—

Canada is still the largest purchaser of both sugar and molasses, the principal domestic products of the Island, and will probably continue to be so. Freight rates, reciprocal trade relations, and marketing conditions are factors all of which tend increasingly to open still further the outlet for Colonial products in the markets of the Dominion.

CHAPTER VIII.

WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

In Barbados the rates of wages are not high because the supply of labour is always in excess of the demand. Agriculture is the main source of the Island's prosperity and whether it be by working on the land or in the stores of Bridgetown the worker must measure his prosperity by the price in the world's market of sugar, the Island's staple industry.

Sugar is manufactured in Barbados to-day at a price often higher than that at which it can be sold, and should the estate proprietor adopt the natural course of saving himself by the introduction of labour-saving devices and by centralization, the State will be faced with the grave difficulty of finding a means of subsistence for those who have been displaced. The door to emigration is closed; in fact, for 1931, the increase of immigration over emigration amounted to 1,127.

The census report of 1921 gives the average number employed in agriculture as 34,157. This must be considered a fair estimate for to-day taking into account that no new industry has been developed and no other means of livelihood have been adopted by the people.

Agricultural labourers are usually employed on an average of nine hours per day for which they are paid at the following rates:—men: 1s. 3d. to 2s. per day; women: 10d. to 1s. 3d. per day; and children: 6d. to 8d. per day. Labourers on sugar plantations and in factories generally live in houses owned by themselves but on land belonging to the estates. In the purchase and repair of their houses they receive assistance from their employers who deduct the amount advanced in instalments from their wages, and they are charged a small weekly sum for the plots on which their houses are built.

A large number of natives are employed as casual labourers on the wharves at the port of Bridgetown, their chief occupation being that of lightermen, porters, etc., for the loading and unloading of ships, and for the storage of cargo at the warehouses of the various shipping firms. The average wages paid for this class of labour is as follows:—Lightermen, from $4.15 to $6.35 per trip, divided between four men, according to the size of the lighter, when handling general cargo, and from $5.40 to $7.15 per trip when the cargo consists of coal. Overtime rates are double the ordinary rates. Ships labourers, $1.50 per day per man for general cargo and from $1.50 to $2.40 per day for a coal cargo, according to the nature of the duties performed, i.e., guymen receive $1.50 per day, while spaders receive $2.40. Overtime is at the rate of 18 cents per hour. In steamers' warehouses permanent labourers are paid from $5.00 to $6.00 per week, casual labourers $1.20 per day. Overtime is at the rate of 18 cents per hour. Boatmen engaged in attending on the loading or discharging of steamers are paid at the rate of $1.00 per day, with overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour.

With the very small sugar-cane crop of 1931, the volume of export trade was considerably reduced with consequent reduction of work for the casual labourer and, naturally, a consequent shrinkage in the import trade, because of the reduced spending power of the people.

It is not possible to give the number of those occupied as artisans, but the numbers engaged in the various trades are not inconsiderable. The census return of 1921 gives a total of 23,682 as engaged in industrial occupations. The wages paid to artisans average from 3s. to 5s. *per diem* according to the skill of the worker.

With the introduction of the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, the aptitude of the Barbadian as a skilled worker shows promise of remaining at its usually high level, and it is hoped that increased facilities for technical training will be one of the results of the recent Education Commission that visited the Island.

In the census returns of 1921, 25,255 persons were given as being engaged in domestic service. Domestic servants and chauffeurs in the employ of persons of the upper class receive pay at the following rates :—

	Per Week.	
	s.	*s. d.*
Butler	10 to	15 0
Housemaid	6 to	8 0
Nurse	6 to	10 0
Cook	10 to	12 6
Chauffeur	20 to	30 0
Gardener	8 to	10 0

In the homes of the respectable middle class, domestic servants are paid at an average of 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. per month with or without food as the case may be; this does not apply to chauffeurs whose pay seldom drops below the figures above quoted.

The number engaged in the fishing industry is approximately 1,000. These men are recruited from the same class as the agricultural labourer and their standard of living is about the same. Some fishermen own their boats, while others use the boats of private owners and are given a percentage of the catch.

A number of Barbadian seamen are employed on ships of the Canadian National Steamships and of the Furness Withy Line. Formerly ships of the Harrison Line carried Barbadian crews, but this practice was discontinued some years ago. The withdrawal of the ships of the Lamport and Holt and Booth Lines has reduced the chances of employment to a great extent.

The total number in Government employment in 1921 was 1,175. In the clerical service salaries range from £50 per annum for junior cadets to £400 for Chief Clerks. Heads of Departments, Magistrates, and Judges receive salaries varying from £500 to £700, while higher legal and other posts are paid at the rate of £1,000 to £1,200.

Police Constables are paid from £78 for 3rd Class Constables to £135 for Sergeants; Prison Warders from £75 to £200, and Matrons from £45 to £150 per annum; Attendants at the Government Industrial Schools, Mental Hospital and Leper Asylum from £40 to £100 for males and from £25 to £75 for females. Railway employees are paid as follows:—Locomotive Drivers £2 per week, Loco Firemen £1 per week, Loco Cleaners £1 per week; artisans $1.00 to $1.50 per day; Porters, Messengers, etc., $3.90 to $2.00 per week; Guards $8.00 to $7.20 per week; Platelayers, etc., 2s. 6d. to 1s. per day.

As regards the cost of living, the ordinary prices of necessary commodities are:—

Cornmeal	1¾d. per lb.
Sugar (white)	2¾d. per lb.
Fire wood	1s. 8d. per 100 lb.
Milk (condensed)	6d. to 8d. per tin.
Rice	2d. per lb.
Beef (salt)	6d. per lb.
Pork (salt)	10d. per lb.
Pork (fresh)	8d. per lb.
Beef (fresh)	8d. per lb.
Mutton (fresh)	1s. 3d. per lb.
Milk (fresh)	2½d. per pint.
Flour	2d. per lb.
Salmon	10d. to 1s. 8d. per tin.
Fish	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Grain (whole peas)	2d. per pint.
Grain (split peas)	2d. per pint.
Tea	1s. 8d. to 3s. 4d. per lb.
Margarine	1s. per lb.
Coffee	6d. to 1s. 3d. per lb.
Kerosine oil	2d. to 3d. per pint.
Soap (household)	9d. per bar.
Cocoa	8d. per lb.
Bread (white)	4d. per lb.
Butter (fresh)	2s. per lb.
Cheese	1s. 8d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 3d. per dozen.

In the case of Government officials, quarters, partly furnished, are provided for the Colonial Secretary (on payment of rent), and unfurnished quarters, free of rent, for the Director of Agriculture, the Inspector-General of Police, and a few other officials. Head teachers at the principal schools are provided with quarters and, in some instances, unmarried teachers are also provided with quarters. The cost of accommodation including meals at the two principal hotels is from 12s. 6d. a day upwards. Private board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £12 per month. Laundry charges in the case of an unmarried officer amount to about £1 10s. a month, and transport to about £5 a month. These figures apply in the case of an officer appointed from abroad; local officers can of course live more cheaply. Unfurnished or furnished houses in residential districts are obtained only with difficulty; the normal rent in the case of the former is about £100 a year and in the case of the latter about £150 a year.

The cost of clothing, specially for the labouring classes, has decreased considerably within the past three years, and, although the short crop of 1931, coupled with the depressed condition of the sugar market, resulted in a scarcity of money with consequent suffering to a large section of the community, it cannot be said that the rates of pay at the present time are out of proportion to the cost of living.

CHAPTER IX.

EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The schools of the Island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 127 in 1931; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English Universities. The Cambridge Junior Local or the Lower Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board is also taken by pupils of both second- and first-grade schools.

In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1931 was 23,678 and the average attendance 15,930, an increase of 397 and a decrease of 400 respectively as compared with the figures for 1930.

To the number of second-grade schools no additions have been made during the year. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1931 was 394 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 168.

The three first-grade schools are Harrison College, and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendance at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1931 were 254 and 178 respectively. The Lodge School, in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 103, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. At this school attend a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution. There are in Bridgetown several private schools for boys and girls that prepare pupils for the Cambridge Local Examination and for entry into the first- and second-grade schools.

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from fifteen to twenty. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. Most of the College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but they have been restored and were re-opened in June, 1931. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

The total grant for education purposes, exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls, in 1931 was £54,339, of which £1,284 was the cost of office staff, etc., £9,210 grants to first- and second-grade schools, £1,156 for University education, and £37,673 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses. A sum of £4,371 was voted for repairs and enlargement of elementary school buildings.

School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in six schools, while twenty-five schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work, brush-making, etc. A cooking class has been started at two girls' schools, as well as a class for the instruction of teachers in domestic science.

Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (No. 31), ten apprentices completed their first year's, thirteen their second year's, thirteen their third year's, fifteen their fourth year's, and nine their fifth year's, courses. To these last nine the Education Board have issued certificates of competence as journeymen tradesmen on completion of their apprenticeship. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen, but probably neither this system nor the modicum of manual training obtainable at some of the schools is at present of more than ordinary benefit. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is left entirely to the assistance of men engaged in work themselves and is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc., during working hours. Masters and apprentices are paid from public funds allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. 0d. a year.

The Colony was visited in January by a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to report on and submit recommendations for the improvement of the educational system. The Commission's Report has not yet been received.

The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 106 teachers, 61 male and 45 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 78 (40 male and 38 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant from the Government of £600. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education. Proposals for the adoption of a scheme for the medical and dental inspection of school children have not yet been dealt with owing to lack of funds.

At the Boys' Industrial School and the Girls' Reformatory the number of inmates was ninety and nine respectively. During the year the Salvation Army continued the after-care of youths and girls on discharge from these institutions, providing them with temporary accommodation, finding them employment when possible, and keeping in subsequent touch with them. Provision to meet the actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Salvation Army in connexion with the scheme is included in the Colonial Estimates. In addition to school and religious instruction, boys are taught certain crafts, including carpentry, tailoring, and masonry, and are given instruction in agriculture—applicable to the requirements of plantations—and the care of animals. Under the instruction of a Seamstress Matron, girls at the Reformatory make all the clothing required at the institution, and classes are held in plain and fancy work. Cooking is also taught.

The health at both institutions has been good.

As regards provision for the public welfare, it is the special duty of the Parish Vestries to provide for the aged, sick, and poor. All the almshouses are maintained to the standard of cottage hospitals. It has been the custom when reporting on poor relief in the past to include the amount expended on the Government-controlled institutions such as the General Hospital, Mental Hospital, and the Leper Hospital. The following table shows the expenditure by Government on those institutions together with the amount expended parochially for the last two years :—

Year.	*Parochial.*			*General Hospital.*			*Mental Hospital.*			*Leper Hospital.*			*Total.*		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
1930	41,523	4	11¼	22,910	8	10	11,924	13	0	4,625	17	8	80,984	4	5
1931	39,512	19	8	22,672	13	11	12,039	7	6	3,920	15	7	78,145	16	8

Much work of a useful character is carried on under the auspices of the Women's Social Welfare League. This association, which is purely of a private character, is responsible for the establishment and working of the Girls Industrial Union at which girls of various classes of society form themselves into clubs where such useful crafts as cookery, sewing, basket-making, fancy work, as well as the arts—music, drawing, and painting—are taught. The Baby Welfare League, of which mention is made in Chapter IV, is a subsidiary organization of the parent League, which is also responsible for the establishment of the Venereal Disease Clinics. A new venture, called the Family Welfare League, has recently been started, and in this time of distress due to unemployment is doing much to relieve the needs of destitute families of the better class who would be reluctant to apply for aid to the parochial body. Well organized branches of the Young Men's Christian Association and Girls' Friendly Society are established in the Colony.

There is no system of old age or health insurance in the Colony, but there are a large number of Friendly Societies which aim at three things, namely :—

(i) the provision of a Christmas bonus ;
(ii) provision for some small assistance during sickness ; and
(iii) provision for burial.

The following figures afford useful information concerning the working of Friendly Societies in the Island :—

(1) The number of members in all Societies to 30th June, 1931, was 43,491
(2) The number of dependants of the above members was 109,674
(3) The total contributions paid by members for the year ended 31st December, 1930 ... £49,552

Friendly Societies and Guilds are attached to many of the Churches and these provide for relief in sickness and death. A new form of organization styled " Land Ship " has been taken up by the lower classes, who derive a means of recreation therefrom as well as relief in sickness and death as in the case of Friendly Societies.

There are many forms of recreation for the inhabitants of the Colony. The cheapest and most popular is sea bathing, for which ample facilities exist along the southern and western coasts, and in isolated spots on the eastern and windward coast. For the upper and middle classes there are two aquatic clubs which cater also for indoor recreation such as dancing, theatricals, etc. There is also a yacht club. A scheme for the provision on suitable sites of bathing sheds for the masses is under consideration.

Cricket is a popular game in the West Indies, and Barbados contributes in no small degree to the fame of these Islands in this pastime. The cricket season lasts from June to December and games are played on Saturdays. Some years ago there were many working men's clubs and a cup was presented by the Frame Food Company for competition among them; for one reason or another, these clubs went out of existence, but the practice shows signs of revival, and it is hoped to see once again the poorer classes taking an active interest in playing the game as they take in watching it played by others.

Association football is played from January to April and all classes take an active part in the game.

There are many good tennis clubs in the Island, and an up-to-date golf club.

Troops of boy scouts and girl guides are attached to the majority of the secondary schools and many elementary schools have taken up scout-craft.

The Barbados Volunteer Force and the Cadet Corps of the secondary schools provide recreation as well as useful training for their members.

There are two cinematograph theatres in Bridgetown at which talking pictures are shown to large audiences. The Island is visited occasionally by dramatic companies from the United Kingdom or the Dominion of Canada.

There is an Arts and Crafts Society and an Art Section at the Annual Industrial Exhibition at which local artists have an opportunity of displaying their work.

The Barbados Choral Society with a membership of about 80, under the conductorship of the Cathedral organist, gives two public performances annually, one at the middle of the year at which secular music is rendered, the venue being the Hall at Queen's Park, and the other consisting of Christmas Carols, which are rendered at Saint Michael's Cathedral. The Cathedral possesses a three-manual organ by Messrs. Walker on which a regular monthly recital is given on the second Monday in each month. The Police Band renders weekly programmes at Hastings Rocks, under private management, and at Queen's Park, a public institution under the control of the Saint Michael's Vestry.

CHAPTER X.

COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The Island has a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of eleven Boards of Highways Commissioners.

As stated elsewhere in this Report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparativey small area is served by no less than 280 miles of main roads and approximately 190 miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use. It must be borne in mind that with a population of over 1,000 to the square mile, the problem of maintaining communications has to be approached rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

Up to ten or fifteen years ago—before the advent of self-propelled vehicles—Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficiency of funds, led to their rapid deterioration.

The first definite step towards improving and preserving them was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct, the arterial roads radiating from Bridgetown. It was estimated that the roads classified as arterial roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000. equal to about £1,580 per mile, and that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the city of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the Parish of Saint Michael was transferred to the Central Road Board. An additional and urgent task was thus imposed upon the Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926-7. and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1931-2, the sum of £137,886 has been spent on 73 miles of seven arterial roads plus £72,866 from Government grants and Parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's Parish.

Railways.

A light railway twenty-four miles long runs through the southern parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £12,000. The actual expenditure, including extraordinary outlay, was £11,227, and the actual revenue £6,527.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years :—

	1931.	1930.	1929.
Passengers	58,877	83,571	91,204
Live Stock	139	109	171

	1931.	1930.	1929.
Goods :—	*Tons.*	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses	7,515	15,679	16,663
Canes	4,060	7,204	9,078
Fuel	87	232	156
Sundries	4,932	7,867	9,704
	16,594	30,978	35,601

Omnibuses.

Owing to the configuration of the land and the improved condition of the roads, practically the whole of the Island is accessible to motor vehicles. The city of Bridgetown and its suburbs are supplied with a well equipped motor omnibus service which is run by the General Motor Omnibus Company, a company whose advent was responsible for the closing down of the Bridgetown Tramways Company a few years ago. Omnibuses leave the terminus in Trafalgar Square every quarter of an hour for the seaside districts of Hastings, Rockley, Saint Lawrence, and Fontabelle, as well as the popular inland residential districts.

Competition with one or two small companies has forced the larger concern to keep its fares down to the low rate of 1½d. per section, which in some cases extends over two miles.

A regular daily service inwards on mornings, and outwards on evenings, from the country districts is maintained by the General Motor Omnibus Company as well as by several individual owners of one or two omnibuses.

Posts.

There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies, and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines :—

Between Europe and West Indies :—

- Royal Netherlands Line.
- Elders and Fyffes Line.
- Harrison Line.
- Leyland Line.
- Hamburg-Amerika Line.

Between Canada, Boston, and British West Indian Colonies :—

Canadian National Steamship Company.

Between the United States of America, West Indies, Central and South America :—

Aluminum Line.
Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company.
Booth Line.
Ocean Dominion Line.
Western Ocean Line.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below :—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*		*H.M. Ships.*	
	1930.	*1931.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1930.*	*1931.*
Mails for Barbados ...	525	534	4	5	—	25
Mails from Barbados...	525	520	49	49	—	1

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic communication is provided by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Telephones.

The Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, controls the telephone system in the Colony with the exception of a private branch exchange attached to the Police Department. The system extends throughout the Island, the total wire mileage being 5,400.

Wireless Telegraphy.

Wireless communication is maintained by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, station at Bridgetown.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,086, with a net tonnage of 1,914,328 as compared with 1,121 vessels with a tonnage of 2,039,744 during the previous year. In addition thirteen ships of war, eleven yachts, and three training ships visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 2,559, while 2,451 were discharged. The estimated amount of money earned during the year as wages by seamen belonging to, and engaging in, the Colony for service on ships was £20,900 as compared with £39,000 for the previous year.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica, and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are the Harrison and the Leyland Lines from Liverpool direct, and the Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from London fortnightly. The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) runs a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados and Central American ports, calling at Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth on the return. The same company operates the Surinam Line, a three-weekly service from Amsterdam calling at Dover, Madeira, Paramaribo, Demerara, Barbados, Trinidad, Venezuelan ports, Curacao, Haiti, and New York; when homeward bound, these vessels do not call at Barbados but, in addition to the above-named ports, touch at Boulogne. This service ceased in December, 1931.

The Fyffes Line (Elders and Fyffes Limited) make fortnightly sailings from Avonmouth calling at Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Cristobal, Jamaica, thence to Avonmouth. This company also carries out a fortnightly service to the West Indies sailing from Swansea thence to Jamaica, Santa Marta, La Guaira, Trinidad, Barbados, Southampton, and Bremerhaven. The duration of the voyage, Avonmouth-Barbados is thirteen days and from Barbados-Southampton, eleven days.

The Hamburg-Amerika Line operates a monthly service sailing from Hamburg via Antwerp, Southampton, Cherbourg, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Curacao, Puerto Colombia, Cartagena, Cristobal to Port Limon. On the return journey, these vessels call at Plymouth and Amsterdam instead of at Southampton and Antwerp. It is possible that this company will, in the near future, operate a fortnightly service.

The Canadian National Steamships Company operates a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad, and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados. The freight and passenger service commenced in December, 1928, with the sailing of the s.s. *Lady Nelson* from Halifax, N.S. The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provides a fortnightly freight service between Halifax and Barbados. An irregular service is provided by freighters of the Canadian Transport Company; these vessels sail from Vancouver, B.C.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy), the Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Ocean Service), and the Munson Steamship Line. Ships on the Aluminum Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados *en route* to British and Dutch Guiana.

CHAPTER XI.

BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Three private banks are operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid up capital of the first named bank is £4,975,500, while in the case of the other banks the figures are $35,000,000 and $30,000,000 respectively.

The Government Savings Bank.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which at the end of the year under review, there were 10,606 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £512,530. The value of the invested funds was £661,721. The figures for 1930 were : deposits £537,445, invested funds £673,861, and number of depositors 10,634. The number of depositors shows a decrease of 28, and the total amount to their credit a decrease of £24,915.

An amendment to the Savings Bank Act passed in 1929 authorized the writing off to Profit and Loss Account of all accounts whose balances were less than one dollar with which no transaction had taken place for a period of five years. Under this amendment 1,464 accounts were closed, the total amount written off being £119 15s. 3d. If subsequently claimed the amounts written off are paid. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor in Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows :—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman, *ex officio*, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1932, after paying income-tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan, and salaries, etc., amounted to £6,799 0s. 9d.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1931, was £210,024, as compared with £203,225 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £2,897, as compared with £2,685 for the previous year.

Loans and interest due thereon are a first lien and charge against the plantation in respect of which the loan is made.

No changes have occurred in currency during the year. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. There is in addition a dollar paper currency issued by the banks, the exchange value being fixed at $4.80 to the pound sterling.

British imperial standard weights and measures are everywhere employed.

CHAPTER XII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The administration of public works is under the control of a Superintendent of Public Works. The Department is responsible for the upkeep of all Government buildings including the military properties in the garrison which are now under Government control, bridges, wharves, and lighthouses.

The Legislature has accepted a proposal for the amalgamation of the Water-Works and Public Works Department under the control of a Director of Public Works and the scheme will be put into operation during the coming year.

The roads and railways are each under separate control and are worked apart from the Public Works Department.

The only work of importance carried out by the Department during the year was the laying on of water to 16 elementary schools.

A grant was received from the Colonial Development Fund for the establishment of a Central Venereal Diseases Clinic and a loan from the Fund of £16,000 has been made towards the improvement of the Public Market. The Colonial Advisory Committee have also agreed to make a free grant of one-third of the total expenditure on a scheme for the improvement of the Colony's water-supply, the remainder to be obtained by loan. It has been decided to proceed only with the installation of a new pumping plant at Bowmanston Station, the estimated cost of which is £30,000. None of the works above mentioned were commenced during the year.

CHAPTER XIII.

JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Superior Courts of the Island are presided over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction (not exceeding £50 at Common Law and £500 in Equity) is vested in two Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal. These Judges are also Judges of the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown. There are six Police Magistrates, four of whom in rural districts are also Judges of the Petty Debt Courts of those districts. From the decisions and judgments of Police Magistrates and Judges of Petty Debt Courts there is a right of appeal to the Assistant Court of Appeal, the Registrar of the Island sitting with a Judge of that Court to hear appeals from the other Judge in his capacity as Judge of the Petty Debt Court at Bridgetown.

The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £13,083.

Under the authority of Act No. 6 of 1929, Police Magistrates are authorized to allow time for the payment of fines or to allow payment of fines by instalments. Except in special cases, as, for instance, those against in transit seamen, the general practice is to allow time for the payment of fines.

Police.

The Police Force is composed of an Inspector-General, a Deputy Inspector-General, a Senior and a Junior Inspector, and 408 non-commissioned officers and men. Of these, forty-four, including four supernumeraries, are attached to the Harbour Police and perform regular harbour duties. An efficient band is attached to the Force.

The Inspector-General is also Commandant of the Local Forces and is charged also with the control of the Fire Brigade consisting of twenty-five men.

Prisons.

Glendairy Prison, in the Parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony and has accommodation for 275 males and 128 females. Instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, baking, and other crafts. The estimated value of work done in the carpenter's shop during 1931 for Government Departments was £143. The bakery supplied approximately 31 tons of bread to the Mental and Leper Hospitals during the same period. All clothes washing and cooking is done by the female prisoners.

Juvenile adult prisoners are segregated as far as possible from adults and are instructed in one of the above-mentioned trades.

The Medical Officer attends the prison daily examining and prescribing for the sick when necessary; his orders are carefully carried out by male and female hospital attendants on the staff. The health of all the prisoners during 1931 was good.

Provision for Juvenile Courts with a Probation System is now before the Legislature. A Prisoners' Aid Society has recently been formed.

The following is a comparative statement for the last three years:—

	1929.	1930.	1931.
Total number of persons committed to prison	998	1,250	1,490
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	47	29	36
Daily average in prison (males)	137	153	171
Daily average in prison (females)	28	31	35
Police Court convictions	9,173	10,105	10,344
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	480	459	422
Convictions by Superior Court	54	59	58

Until the Prisoners' Aid Society was formed, there was a scheme for the after-care of discharged prisoners conducted by the Prison Chaplain and the local branch of the Salvation Army with the Governor of the Prison as a member of the After-care Committee.

CHAPTER XIV.

LEGISLATION.

Acts.

The following Acts were passed during the Legislative Session, 1931-32:—

1931.

No. 10. The Highways (Amendment) Act increases the taxes on animals, vehicles and land authorized to be collected by Act No. 7 of 1900.

No. 11. The Property and Conveyancing Act permits a Corporation Sole to succeed to property of any description and continues the validity of contract entered into or appointment made by a Corporation Sole after the occurrence of a vacancy in such office of Corporation Sole.

No. 12. The Plantations Limited (Jetty Extension) Act.

No. 13. The Mongoose and Rat (Destruction) Amendment Act temporarily increases the payments for the destruction of mongoose and rats.

No. 14. The Gill Pension Act.

No. 15. The Petroleum (Amendment) Act.

No. 16. The Agricultural Credit Societies (Amendment) Act increases the minimum value of the share which each member of a society must hold on joining the society and levies an annual subscription on each member.

No. 17. The Small Pension Act.

No. 18. The Taxation of Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act exempts from taxation and the payment of a penalty certain owners of motor lorries.

No. 19. The Public Loan (Roads) Act.

No. 20. The Trade (Amendment) Act allows a drawback similar to that allowed in respect of cotton seed oil of the duty paid on cotton seed meal manufactured from imported cotton seed.

No. 21. The Rates of Income Tax Act.

No. 22. The Emergency Control of Prices Act permits the Governor in Executive Committee, on the occurrence in the Island of a hurricane or earthquake, to fix maximum prices that may be charged for necessary commodities.

No. 23. The Watson and Fleming (Extension of time for payment of Patent Fees) Act.

No. 24. The Railway Pensions and Gratuities (Validity) Act.

No. 25. The Post Office (Amendment) Act increases the postage on newspapers.

No. 26. The Income Tax (Amendment) Act reduces the number of Income Tax Commissioners from three to one and alters the method of assessing companies.

No. 27. The Stamp (Amendment) Act imposes a stamp duty on police certificates issued to intending travellers.

No. 28. The Supplementary Appropriation Act.

No. 29. The Education (Amendment) Act reduces the number of Vestry Exhibitions tenable at Queen's College, a first-grade school, to enable exhibitions to be awarded at Saint Michael's, a second-grade school.

No. 30. The Quarantine (Amendment) Act provides for payment by the owners, masters, or agents of ships of expenses incurred in guarding passengers, officers, crew, or labourers detained at the Quarantine Station.

No. 31. The Mosaic Disease (Eradication) Amendment Act removes the minimum fine that may be imposed for offences against Section 10 of the principal Act.

1932.

No. 1. The Midwives and Nurses Registration Act provides for the registration and better training of midwives and nurses and regulates their practice.

No. 2. The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act levies a specific duty on seeds and beans imported for expressing oil therefrom.

No. 3. The Georgina Clarke Jetty Act.

No. 4. The Girl Guides Association Act furthers and protects the activities and interests of the Girl Guides Association in the Island.

No. 5. The Beresford Packer Gittens Dental Registration Act.

No. 6. The Imperial and International Communications Company Act confers and imposes on Imperial and International Communications Company some of the privileges and duties conferred and imposed on the Pacific Cable Board.

No. 7. The Travelling Allowance Act allows the Governor and the Education Board to compel officers to keep means of conveyance.

No. 8. The Trade (Amendment) Act alters the method of computing tonnage dues.

No. 9. The Veterinary Surgeons Act provides for the registration of qualified Veterinary Practitioners.

No. 10. The Appropriation Act.

No. 11. The Expiring Laws Continuance Act.

No. 12. The Taxation of Motor Vehicles Act alters the taxes payable in respect of motor vehicles to secure a more equitable correlation between the tax and the weight of the motor vehicle.

The following subsidiary legislation was issued during the year :—

Proclamations.

(1) Appointing a day for special supplication to Almighty God for deliverance from storm and other calamities.

(2) Prohibiting the planting of corn in certain areas.

(3) Declaring certain areas infected with mosaic disease.

(4) Bringing into operation the Legitimacy Act, 1930 (No. 29).

(5) Bringing into operation the Agricultural Credit Societies Act, 1924 (No. 1).

Orders.

(1) Appointing a close season for cotton.

(2) Appointing a close season for okras.

(3) Declaring that Part III of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1926, shall apply to dihydromorphine and its salts and to any preparation, admixture, extract or other substance containing any proportion of dihydromorphinone.

(4) Prohibiting the importation of fresh fruit from places mentioned in the Schedule to the Order owing to the existence of the Mediterranean fruit fly in those countries.

Rules and Regulations.

(1) The Air Navigation Directions, 1931.

(2) Prohibiting the importation of animals from any country where glanders or farcy exists.

(3) Changing the date for the applications for Island Scholarships.

(4) The Passengers' Baggage Regulations, 1931.

(5) Changing the hours for visiting patients at the Mental Hospital.

(6) Amending the Regulations relating to the Market Slaughter House.

(7) The Post Office Regulations, 1931, imposing a tax on cash-on-delivery packets.

(8) The Parcels Post Regulations, 1931, rescinding the Post Office Regulations, 1931, and imposing a delivery fee on parcels and certain packets.

(9) Changing the scale of commission on money orders issued on the United States of America, the Virgin Islands, the Panama Canal Zone, and Canada until further notice.

(10) The Registration of Letters Regulation, 1931.

(11) Amending the Rules made on 17th September, 1912, under Section 179 of the Trade Act, 1910, with respect to gratuities on ship letters.

(12) Introducing the service of small packets into Barbados.

(13) Amending the Regulations relating to returned letters and packets.

Compensation for personal injuries suffered by workmen is provided for by the Employers Liability Act, 1896 (No. 7). There is no factory legislation and legislative provision for sickness and old age is contained in the Poor Relief Act, 1892 (No. 2) as amended by Acts Nos. 50 of 1917 and 39 of 1928, the administering of such relief being in the hands of the parochial authorities.

CHAPTER XV.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1927-28	414,884	481,252
1928-29	441,732	459,626
1929-30	453,802	450,696
1930-31	404,555	429,143
1931-32	415,615	424,088

In these amounts are included receipts and payments on account of loans. If these amounts are deducted, the ordinary revenue for the year 1931-32 was £408,093, as compared with £395,532 for 1930-31, and the ordinary expenditure £416,536, compared with £420,120. Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve funds set out hereunder, on 31st March, 1932, was £1,098.

Special Funds.	£	s.	d.
Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...	56,667	18	3
Water Boat Renewal Fund	12,771	11	6
Red Cross Fund	1,862	2	5
Public Officers' Security Fund ...	10,535	12	0
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	29,635	1	11½
Road Reconstruction Fund	11,611	4	0½
	£223,083	10	2

Revenue.

The revenue for 1931-32 shows an increase of £11,090 over that of the previous year, the principal head showing increases being "Reimbursements" £21,545. The increase under all heads was £28,733, while the decreases totalled £17,643. The decreases are due generally to fluctuations in business.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1931-32, excluding loan disbursements, was £416,536, a decrease of £3,584 as compared with the previous year. The total expenditure for the year was £5,055 less than in 1930-31.

The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads "Police," "Education," "Medical," and "Water-Works." The expenditure under these heads was as follows :—

	£		*Compared with* 1930–31. £
Police	44,208	a decrease of ...	1,281
Education ...	53,438	an increase of ...	1,804
Medical ...	46,156	a decrease of ...	351
Water-Works...	45,320	an increase of ...	5,954
	£189,122		

The total expenditure on these four departments, £189,122, represents 44 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

Special expenditure on restoration of roads amounted to £21,786. The question as to the proportion of road charges involved in the work of reconstruction now being carried out which may properly be allocated to loan funds had not been finally decided at the end of the year.

As compared with the previous year there was a net decrease in expenditure of a sum of £5,055.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at 31st March, 1932, was £663,000, the Sinking Fund on that date being £368,839, as compared with £345,517 in 1931. The loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1932, were as follows :—

Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.*			*Amount outstanding.*			*Sinking Fund.*			*Date Redeemable.*
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	
Water-Works Loan Act, 1894	375,000	0	0	375,000	0	0	317,447	1	7	15th March, 1942.
Public Works Loan Act, 1887	92,000	0	0	14,000	0	0	13,850	1	1	November, 1932.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	9,760	2	5	£11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Act, 1917, Special Loan Act, 1917 (No. 2), Special Loan Act, 1920, and Special Loan (Amendment) Act, 1922, Special Loan Act, 1922	147,000	0	0	147,000	0	0	26,558	10	2	£35,000 August, 1964. £30,000 February, 1965. £40,000 March, 1968. £25,000 April, 1969. £17,000 May, 1969.
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000	0	0	90,000	0	0	1,223	19	0	£25,000 October, 1975. £65,000 7th October, 1978.
	£741,000	0	0	£663,000	0	0	£368,839	14	3	

The revenue derived from the main heads of taxation during the year was as follows:—Customs £196,838, Excise Duty on Rum and Distillers' Licences £53,829, and Income-Tax £27,633. The Stamp Act, 1916-17, and the amendments thereto impose duties for the use of the Island upon the several instruments specified in the Schedules to the said Act. Revenue derived from this source during the year was:—embossing cheques, £673; licences on note issue of banks, £225; and sale of stamps for revenue purposes under the Stamp Act, £2,917.

Customs Tariff (summarized). The Customs Tariff Act at present in force is Act No. 20 of the year 1921 as amended by Act No. 25 of the year 1926 which substituted a new tariff of duties. Further amendments were effected by Act No. 10 of 1927, Act No. 10 of 1930, and Act No. 2 of 1932.

These Acts provide for preferential and general rates of duty, the former rates applying to all articles of British Empire origin, the latter to goods from foreign sources.

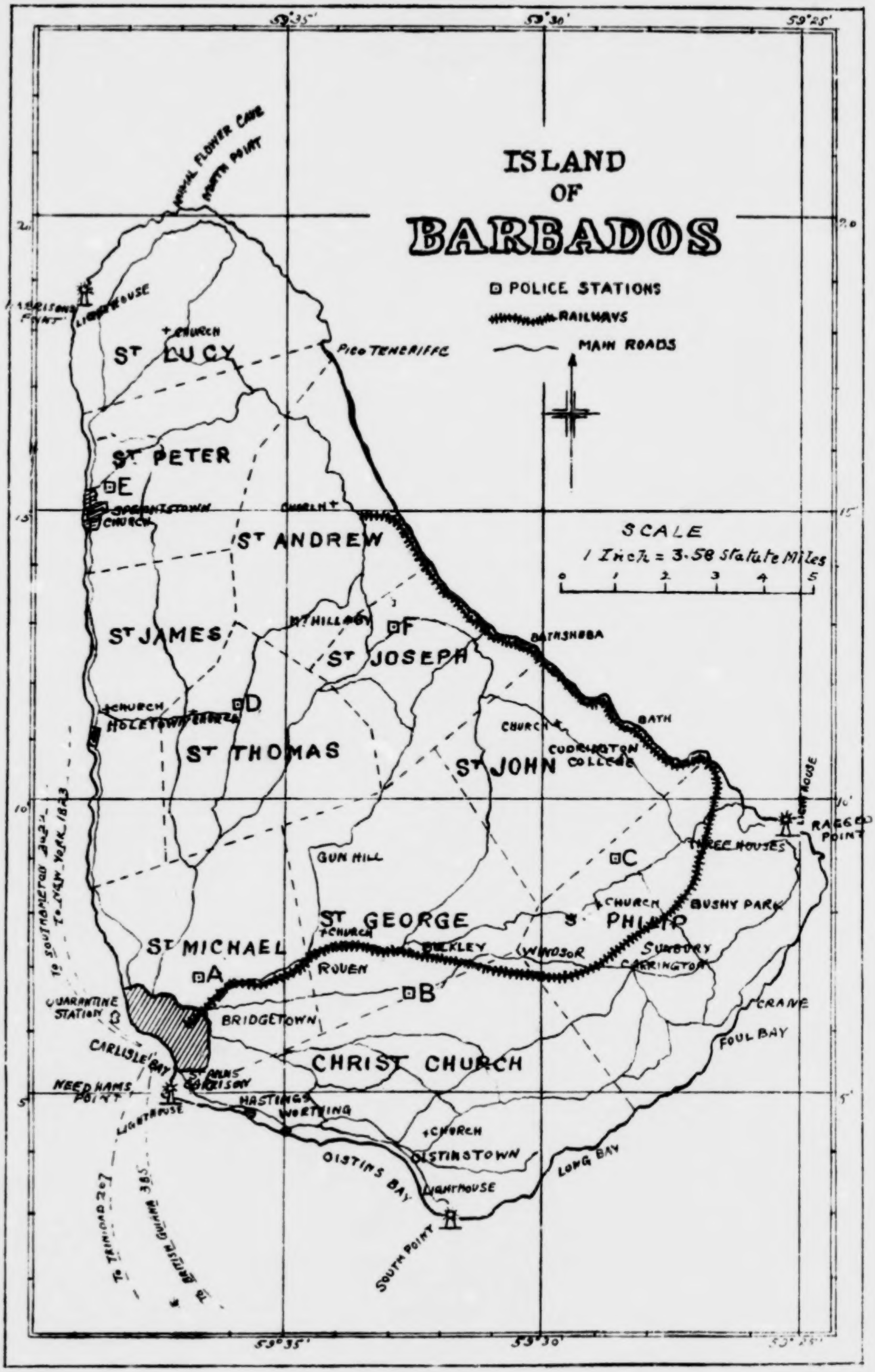
The revenue derived from specific duties is approximately twice that received from *ad valorem* duties, high rates of specific duties being imposed on luxury articles such as spirits, wines, and tobacco while *ad valorem* duties are generally fixed at 10 per cent. preferential and 20 per cent. general rate, the general being usually twice the preferential rate.

There are no export duties.

Agricultural implements and machinery for the manufacture of sugar and its products, including rum and for other local manufactures are on the list of goods free of duty.

There is no hut or poll tax in force in the Colony.

17th September, 1932.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I.—GEOGRAPHY, CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is twenty-one miles long by fourteen miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles with a population at the end of 1932 of 176,874. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed eighty settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629 in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for twenty-one years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle, and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663 and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force, and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies, while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find in it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados :—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics. . . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

Unlike most of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831, and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Barbados possesses a representative Legislature but not full responsible government. The Crown retains only the right of veto on legislation, but the Home Government retains the appointment and control of the public officers, except the Colonial Treasurer who is nominated annually by the House of Assembly and his appointment confirmed by the Governor in Executive Committee.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the King, and a House of Assembly of twenty-four members, elected annually on the basis of a moderate franchise.

The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

For electoral purposes the Island is divided into twelve constituencies, viz., the City of Bridgetown, and the eleven parishes of Saint Michael, Saint George, Christ Church, Saint Philip, Saint John, Saint Joseph, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint James, Saint Peter, and Saint Lucy, each of which returns two members to the General Assembly. The qualifications of members and electors are regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2). The Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9) regulates the procedure at elections of members to serve in the General Assembly or in the several Vestries of the Island.

The total number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls at the present time is 5,181 and is made up as follows :—

> Bridgetown, 823; Saint Michael, 1,641; Christ Church, 737; Saint George, 342; Saint Philip, 290; Saint John, 128; Saint Joseph, 135; Saint Andrew, 240; Saint Peter, 252; Saint Lucy, 124; Saint James, 221; Saint Thomas, 248.

The total at the time of the last election—May, 1932, was 4,807. It is now nearer the number included in 1931 which was 5,155.

The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 7.6 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 17.0 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last (1921) census returns.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Executive Council appointed by the Crown, and consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, *ex-officio*, and two other members. The Executive Committee—appointed under the provisions of the Executive Committee Act, 1891 (No. 24)—consists of the members of the Executive Council, *ex-officio*, one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the House of Assembly, nominated annually by the Governor. This body introduces all money Votes, prepares the Estimates and initiates all Government measures.

Local government is in the hands of eleven Parish Boards or Vestries. The Vestry is elected annually under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2) and the Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9). The Rector of the parish is *ex-officio* Chairman of the Vestry. The functions of the Vestry include the appointment of Guardians for the care of the sick and poor, of Commissioners of Health for the control of sanitation, and of Highway Commissioners for the upkeep of roads. To provide funds for these purposes the Vestries levy rates on lands and houses, and taxes on trade, vehicles, draught animals, etc.

III.—POPULATION.

The population on 31st December, 1932, was estimated to be 176,874—78,246 being males and 98,628 females. The increase over the estimated total for 1931 is 3,200 or 1.8 per cent., and is made up as follows :—

Natural increase, births exceeding deaths by ...	2,066
and immigration exceeding emigration by	1,134
	3,200

Estimates of population so calculated have usually been found to be exaggerated when a census is taken.

Based on the returns given in the last census (1921) the population is made up as follows :—

	Per cent.
White	7
Black	71
Mixed	22

The last census was taken in 1921; therefore the figures given in the last paragraph, as well as this, are only approximations. The tendency for large numbers of the urban population to drift into the metropolitan parish of Saint Michael is very pronounced, and has been much encouraged during the last two decades by the indiscriminate dividing and selling or letting of land lots which was not controlled until 1928. The following shows, with as reasonable a degree of accuracy as is expected in such approximations, the estimated numbers in each parish as well as the density per square mile.

Parish.	*Estimated Population.*	*Density.*
Saint Michael	63,500	4,250
Christ Church	22,000	938
Saint George	14,000	831
Saint Philip	15,000	638
Saint John	10,000	744
Saint James	10,500	861
Saint Thomas	8,000	602
Saint Peter	9,000	692
Saint Lucy	8,500	625
Saint Joseph	8,000	851
Saint Andrew	8,500	626

The average density per square mile for the Island is 1,066.

Marriages.

There were 1,016 marriages performed during 1932, 742 by the Church of England, 104 by the Wesleyans, 31 by the Moravians, 11 by the Roman Catholics, 24 were civil, and the remainder divided between 19 other denominations.

The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 12.0.

Illiterates.

The illiterate percentage is 15.6 as against 15.07 last year.

Births and Deaths.

The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	Births.			*Deaths.*		
Year.	*No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Percentage uncertified.*
1928	5,672	33·76	65·99	5,057	30·01	3·0
1929	5,421	32·04	63·37	4,016	23·74	3·3
1930	5,596	32·67	62·85	3,954	23·08	2·4
1931	4,853	28·06	60·46	4,488	25·95	2·0
1932	5,391	30·76	59·69	3,325	18·97	2·2

Infantile Mortality.

The infantile mortality rate has decreased from 298 last year to 198. This rate shows an appreciable decline in every parish.

Immigration and Emigration.

Each year of the past decade, with the exception of 1923 and 1928, shows an increase of immigration over emigration. This increase in 1932 amounted to 1,134, the average net increase for each year being 988. Statistics are not available to show other details of the migration of the population.

IV.—HEALTH.

General, Principal Causes of Death, etc.

The climate is salubrious and semi-tropical. The " maximum mean " temperature varies between 82° F. in the cool months to nearly 88° F. in the hot season, the " minimum mean " being between 70° F. and 73° F. The Island is a natural health resort.

Malaria made its appearance in the Island in October, 1927; but since 17th October, 1929, no new case has occurred, and no anopheline mosquito larvae have been found since January, 1930.

The causes of death are classified in accordance with the International list of Causes of Deaths as adopted for use in England and Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

The following are the principal diseases or groups of diseases responsible for the mortality.

Causes.	*Total No. of deaths.*	*Age groups.* *Under 5.*	*5 to 60.*	*60 and over.*
Dysentery	41	10	21	10
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	108	—	106	2
Syphilis	480	385	78	17
Cancer	116	—	64	52
Pellagra	100	—	45	55
Diseases of the nervous system...	284	20	103	161
Diseases of the circulatory system.	357	1	124	232
Diseases of the respiratory system	306	191	74	41
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	298	270	8	20
Other diseases of the digestive system.	123	44	54	25
Nephritis*	217	25	94	98
Diseases of early infancy* ...	248	248	—	—
Old age	178	—	—	178

* Probably largely due to diet deficiency.

There were four fatal accidents with relation to employment: three in quarrying stone, one by vehicles. No other deaths were due to "occupational causes," nor can work on estates or in factories be considered to have any appreciable effect on the death-rate.

Treatment of the Sick, Medical Assistance, etc.

The General Hospital with an X-ray department is maintained by the Government in Bridgetown and is controlled by a Board of Directors. The surgical wards are excellently equipped and work of a very high order is done. Patients from any parish, sent in accordance with very liberal rules, are received and treated free. There are also pay wards of two grades attached. The resident staff consists of 3 surgeons, a matron, an assistant matron, a tutor sister, a theatre sister, a pay ward sister, and 74 local nurses. The visiting staff consists of 3 visiting surgeons, 3 assistant visiting surgeons, 2 ophthalmic surgeons, 1 dental surgeon, 1 radiologist and a masseuse.

The Government also maintains a well organized Mental Hospital and a Leper Hospital. Treatment on recognized up-to-date lines is carried out at both these institutions. Persons who were inmates of the Leper Hospital and have been discharged as cured are assisted from Government funds if found to be in need.

Each parish maintains an almshouse. These eleven almshouses, besides being places of refuge for the destitute poor, are in most, if not all, instances practically cottage hospitals. Isolation hospitals are also provided by each parish and are available for the treatment of infectious diseases.

In each parish there is a Parochial Medical Officer (in Saint Michael, two) whose duty it is to attend the sick poor, either in their homes or at the almshouse free, or at reduced fees. Dispensaries for the cheap supply of medicine are maintained in seven of the eleven parishes; in the other four the Parochial Medical Officers are paid extra to supply medicine free.

A Baby Welfare Clinic is conducted voluntarily by a committee of ladies, assisted by a medical practitioner, and does very good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds. The Government and Vestry of Saint Michael each grant the organization £150 per annum. Any expenditure beyond this has to be made up from donations and subscriptions by private individuals, etc.

279 babies were entered for treatment, and 930 pints of milk and 983 lb. of barley were distributed free.

Venereal Diseases Clinics have been established at the General Hospital by the Government, and by the Parochial authorities, with certain assistance from the Government Clinic, in Saint George, Saint John, Saint James, Saint Thomas, Saint Peter, Saint Lucy, Saint Joseph and Saint Andrew.

1,205 new cases were treated at the hospital clinic and 2,466 cases at the parochial clinics. The amount expended from Government funds was £1,128.

Organization.

The organization for public health work consists of a Chief Medical Officer, the General Board of Health, and eleven Boards of Commissioners of Health (one for each parish). The Chief Medical Officer is appointed for a period of three years and the Boards annually. The Port Health Officer and his Assistant are responsible for all quarantine measures.

The General Board of Health employ six inspectors for general work throughout the Island, and the Boards of Commissioners of Health employ seventy, twenty-four being in Saint Michael and twelve in Christ Church.

Drainage Works, etc.

There are very few swampy places in Barbados, and it has not been considered necessary for the Government or parishes to undertake drainage works.

V.—HOUSING.

Wage-earners.

The general standard of sanitary arrangements of the cottages of the wage-earning population and peasant proprietors is very low. These cottages, which are almost invariably constructed of wood with shingled roofs, are small, and generally much overcrowded.

About 67 per cent. of the entire population of the Island lives in cottages of less than three rooms, the kitchen, if there is one, or other arrangements for cooking, being separate. Very few are provided with sanitary arrangements which can be considered even moderately satisfactory. The letting separately of rooms in a building is not extensively practised except in certain parts of Bridgetown. Labourers on plantations and in factories live near the estates in small detached cottages often owned by themselves but on rented land. Frequent inspections and the enforcement of the sanitary laws are the means relied on for dealing with the primitive sanitary arrangements in slum areas. About 75 per cent. of the occupants own the cottages or houses in which they live, but few own the land on which the buildings stand.

Better class of houses, etc.

The better class of house is well constructed and is usually supplied with a water-borne system of sewage disposal with which little, if any, fault can be found. These houses are also in almost every case connected with the Government waterworks system which furnishes a very pure, continuous, piped supply. There are 559 standposts at which good drinking water can be obtained free of charge. Except in localities which are difficult of access, it is rare that any dwelling is situated farther than half a mile from a standpost.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

Apart from very inconsiderable quantities of mineral oil and allied products, such as manjak and tar sand, and sea island cotton, production of which has of late materially diminished, the wealth of Barbados is derived entirely from the products of the sugar-cane, of which approximately 35,000 acres are reaped annually, and as the sugar-cane occupies the ground from fourteen to eighteen months in the case of plant canes, and from two to three years in those districts where the rainfall allows planters to ratoon their crops, of necessity the system of agriculture has been developed to ensure the maximum production of sugar, regarding any other crop which may be grown as a " catch crop " between the reaping of one sugar crop and the planting of the next.

Indeed with its population of more than a thousand to the square mile entirely dependent on the harvest of the 67,000 arable acres which the Island contains it is difficult to name any agricultural product other than sugar which could support a tithe of this population; and the very size of the population which has to be fed, watered, educated, and generally cared for, limits the introduction and use of those mechanical methods which have been devised, for the most part, for the development of those wide territories where production is limited by lack of man power.

Three types of sugar are produced, namely, dark crystals of 96° polarization, muscovado sugar, and fancy molasses, and the following table gives a comparison in terms of sugar alone (equating fancy molasses thereto at 330 wine gallons to the long ton) of the production for the past six years :—

Year.	*Tons.*
1927	77,801
1928	84,473
1929	87,798
1930	82,682
1931	61,531
1932	102,369
1933	115,000 (estimate).

Each of the above figures of production includes 5,500 tons estimated as the annual local consumption of sugar.

There are no large units of production such as the "Centrals" of Cuba in Barbados and the plantations vary from 500 acres downwards, and their sugar-canes are manufactured either into fancy molasses by windmills or small steam plants, or into muscovado sugar by steam plants, or into dark crystals, by larger factories, of which the largest has a capacity of only 8,000 tons.

The extremely low cost of production which, apart from Java and Cuba, compares favourably with any other sugar-producing country in the world is very largely due to the plentiful supply of labour, and in spite of the small rainfall and correspondingly low tonnage the majority of plantations have been able to carry on during the period of depression.

It may be said without fear of contradiction that Barbados canes are the sweetest in the world and this very high standard is entirely due to the scientific production of new varieties during the past twenty-five years.

Even with its teeming population the supply of skilled agricultural labour is steadily decreasing due to a general drift to the towns, such as has taken place in most other countries, and Barbados is faced with the problem of creating employment for an ever increasing number of townsmen from the efforts of a correspondingly decreasing number of producers.

There is no labour recruiting, such as is known in other tropical Colonies. Each plantation has a varying number of located labourers who are required to work for a certain period of each week on the plantation which in return supplies them with land for a house and for the cultivation of their own domestic crops, such as yams, sweet potatoes, and eddoes. All agricultural labourers are of non-European descent.

In a previous report it was stated that sugar controls the standard of living of all classes in Barbados, but this is only a half-truth, as has been exemplified during the past two seasons, during which, although world prices have been disastrously low, two record crops have been reaped, with the result that while plantation owners have had to struggle to recover their production costs the harvesting, transporting, manufacturing, and in fact every other stage through which the sugar cane passes from the time it is cut until the resultant sugar has been lowered into the ship's hold have necessitated the employment of more labour than ever before, and although wages have been necessarily low the cost of living has also remained in the same condition.

No further estates have been broken up and sold out in small holdings during the period under review and peasant proprietors are at present in occupation of the following acreages:—

	Acres.
Holdings of less than 1 acre	3,514
Holdings between 1 and 3 acres	6,450
Holdings between 3 and 5 acres	1,800
Holdings more than 5 acres	2,185
Total ...	13,949

Unfortunately, either owing to the fact that the original purchase price has been uneconomic or because the plot is too small (five acres is regarded as the minimum on which a man can maintain himself and family), these cut-up plantations have generally proved a serious loss in capital value to Barbados in that their production has diminished very considerably. This condition is further accentuated by the fact that so many of the small holders find it necessary to occupy themselves in some form of industry other than the cultivation of their holdings, which as a consequence are not developed as they should be.

There is an urgent need in Barbados for a concentrated effort to increase the production from these small holdings, but the continuation of unprofitable prices for primary products together with the actual loss of valuable markets (such as that in British Guiana for ground provisions) render the problem an extremely difficult one.

The Co-operative Produce Marketing Association has proved a profitable medium for the disposal of vegetables to those who have availed themselves of its facilities and, although the export of such products as tomatoes has not proved sufficiently attractive to warrant any extension this year due to the decreased buying capacity of the Canadian market, the trade done locally has been of inestimable benefit to the smallholder.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Colony as well as that of imports and exports is shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total Trade.*
	£	£	£
1928	2,349,159	1,531,265	3,880,424
1929	2,039,601	1,287,300	3,326,901
1930	1,731,786	1,062,916	2,794,702
1931	1,491,644	1,064,051	2,555,695
1932	1,656,876	1,379,006	3,035,882

The value of goods imported and entered for transhipment was £30 805 more than in 1931. The following are the figures for the last five years :—

	£
1928	185,863
1929	196,654
1930	181,171
1931	154,608
1932	185,413

Imports during 1932 as compared with 1931 show an increase of £165,232. The principal increases of imports are seen in the following : apparel, £5,809 ; bags and sacks, empty, £11,662 ; boots and shoes, £9,634 ; motor cars, £11,247 ; motor trucks, £4,758 ; cotton piece-goods, £32,945 ; corn, barley, and wheat, £3,043 ; rice, £20,718 ; haberdashery and millinery, £3,484 ; hardware, £4,042 ; sugar machinery, £35,260 ; beef, salted, £7,747 ; iron and steel manufactures, £4,165 ; oil, edible, £6,378 ; gasolene, £2,598 ; parcel post, £4,076 ; cigarettes, £2,180 ; wood (manufactured) : headings, £2,326 ; hemlock beech, birch, douglas fir, etc., £20,793 ; pitch pine, £3,060 ; shingles, £10,082 ; wool and woollen manufactures, £3,139 ; goods manufactured, £2,543.

The principal decreases occurred in—beer, ale, and stout, £2,109 ; oilmeal and oilcake, £5,001 ; coal, coke, and patent fuel, £12,328 ; cotton manufactures, £2,649 ; oats £8,285 ; flour (wheaten and rye), £18,136 ; maize or cornmeal, £6,893 ; pulse, beans, and peas, £4,945 ; lard, £2,188 ; pork, salted, £4,793 ; kerosene, £5,273 ; wood (unmanufactured), staves, and shooks, £2,504.

For the five years prior to 1932 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 18,314 tons. In 1932 the number of tons taken was 1,390. The following figures relate to the export of coal during the last five years :—

Year.	*Steamships.*	*Tons of coal.*
1928	105	26,411
1929	101	22,008
1930	56	9,224
1931	33	7,143
1932	12	1,390

The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin whence comes the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade.

	1928.	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	35·4	33·9	33·8	34·7	45·6
Canada	20·7	18·7	15·5	17·7	15·1
Other parts of the British Empire	17·2	17·6	19·3	18·2	18·1
United States of America ...	17·3	19·6	19·7	18·8	10·2
Other foreign countries ...	9·4	10·2	11·7	10·6	11·0

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1932, exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	749,509
Canada	248,560
Other parts of the British Empire	297,118
United States of America	168,217
Other foreign countries	179,400

Total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	574,234
Raw materials	288,055
Manufactured articles	714,245
Miscellaneous	66,270
	1,642,804
Specie	14,072
	£1,656,876

The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	787	101
Butter	612	1,315
Oilmeal (cattle food)	14,462	12,401
Cornmeal...	19	8,479
Fish (salted)	16,690	—
Flour	35,117	637
Oats	16,834	—
Manures	—	3,820
Salt beef	1,117	1,161
Salt pork	9,616	6,991
Wood (various) (manufactured and unmanufactured)	84,634	36,029

The total value of exports was £1,379,006, of which £1,195,708 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £183,298 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows :—

	1932.		*1931.*		*1930.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£		£
Sugar (tons) ...	**74,710**	**732,948**	**34,422**	**360,639**	**50,444**	**473,152**
Molasses (gals.) ...	**8,541,078**	**423,175**	**7,790,451**	**426,073**	**9,085,307**	**305,620**
Cotton (lb.) ...	**21,561**	**963**	**336,899**	**21,056**	**25,426**	**3,029**
Rum (gals.) ...	**47,137**	**4,517**	**56,683**	**5,314**	**65,390**	**6,402**

	1929.		*1928.*	
	Quantity.	*Value.*	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
		£		£
Sugar (tons)	**65,517**	**722,389**	**62,659**	**875,239**
Molasses (gals.)	**8,035,779**	**233,813**	**7,229,181**	**288,699**
Cotton (lb.)	**8,858**	**728**	**14,249**	**1,680**
Rum (gals.)	**46,130**	**4,517**	**40,690**	**3,983**

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 194,172 gallons.

The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows :—

	£
Bay Rum	497
Biscuits	6,682
Cotton Seed Meal	101
Fruit (tamarind)	5,201
Hides and Skins	2,880
Lime, "Building"	7,103
Manjak	556
Oils (edible)	938
Vegetables, fresh	7,396

The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years :—

	1928.	*1929.*	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	159,731	78,381	39,000	43,183	324,807
Canada	923,079	799,230	657,343	619,359	707,533
Other parts of the British Empire	68,473	64,401	64,150	67,116	73,951
United States of America ...	59,148	58,221	68,680	113,680	82,260
Other foreign countries	15,698	11,455	8,050	8,403	6,717
Stores (ships)	640	479	371	347	440
	£1,226,769	1,012,167	837,594	852,088	1,195,708

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as compared with 1931 are :—

	Increase. *Per cent.*	*Decrease.* *Per cent.*
United Kingdom	22.1	—
Canada	—	13.5
Other parts of the British Empire	—	1.7
United States of America	—	6.5
Other foreign countries	—	.4

Canada is still the largest purchaser of both sugar and molasses, the principal domestic products of the Island, and will probably continue to be so. Freight rates, reciprocal trade relations, and marketing conditions are factors all of which tend increasingly to open still further the outlet for Colonial products in the markets of the Dominion, but increased preferences on sugar granted by the United Kingdom diverted some of the produce from Canada to the United Kingdom.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages.

The average rates of wages paid to estate labourers are as follows :—men, 1s. 3d. to 2s. per day; women, 9d. to 1s. 3d. per day; children, 6d. to 8d. per day. These labourers generally live in houses which they own, but on land belonging to the estates. In the purchase and repair of their houses they receive assistance from their employers who deduct the amounts advanced in instalments from their wages. They pay a small weekly rent for the plots on which their houses are situated.

In connexion with the activities of the port of Bridgetown a large number of natives find work as casual labourers. The average wages are as follows :—a lighter crew of four men receive from $4.15 to $6.35 per trip according to the size of the lighter when handling general cargo, and from $5.40 to $7.15 per trip when handling a cargo of coal. Overtime rates are double the ordinary rates. Ships' labourers are paid $1.50 per man for general cargo and from $1.50 to $2.40 per day for a cargo of coal, according to the nature of the duties, e.g., guymen are paid $1.50 per day and spaders $2.40. Overtime is at the rate of 18 cents per hour. In steamers' warehouses permanent labourers are paid from $5.00 to $6.00 per week, casual labourers $1.20 per day. They receive overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour. Boatmen engaged in attending on the loading or discharging of steamers are paid at the rate of $1.00 per day, with overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour.

Artisans are paid at the following rates:—carpenters, masons, and mechanics: foremen from 4s. 2d. to 5s. per day, others from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per day.

Domestic servants in the employ of persons of the upper class are paid wages at the following rates per week:—

Butler	10s. to 15s.
Housemaid	6s. to 8s.
Nurse	6s. to 10s.
Cook	10s. to 12s. 6d.
Chauffeur	20s. to 30s.
Gardener	8s. to 10s.

In the homes of the respectable middle class, domestic servants are paid at an average of 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. per month with or without food as the case may be.

Fishermen are recruited from the agricultural class. Some fishermen own their boats, while others use the boats of private owners and are given a percentage of the catch.

During the year the chances of employment for Barbadian seamen were further reduced by the decision of the Canadian National Steamships to carry Canadian crews on their passenger steamers calling at West Indian ports.

In the Government clerical service salaries range from £50 per annum for junior cadets to £400 for Chief Clerks. Heads of Departments, Magistrates, and Judges receive salaries varying from £500 to £700, while higher legal and other posts are paid at the rate of £1,000 to £1,200. Police Constables are paid from £70 for 3rd Class Constables to £135 for Sergeants; Prison Warders from £75 to £200, and Matrons from £60 to £150 per annum; Attendants at the Government Industrial Schools, Mental Hospital, and Leper Asylum from £40 to £100 for males and from £25 to £70 for females. Railway employees are paid as follows:—Locomotive Drivers £2 per week, Loco Firemen £1 per week, Loco Cleaners £1 per week; Artisans $1.00 to $1.50 per day; Porters, Messengers, etc., $2.00 to $3.90 per week; Guards, $7.20 to $8.00 per week; Platelayers, etc., 1s. to 2s. 6d. per day.

Cost of Living.

The ordinary prices of necessary commodities are as follows:—

Cornmeal	1¾d. per lb.
Sugar (white)	2d. per lb.
Fire wood	1s. 8d. per 100 lb.
Milk (condensed)	6d. to 8d. per tin.
Rice	2d. per lb.
Beef (salt)	6d. per lb.
Pork (salt)	1s. per lb.
Pork (fresh)	8d. per lb.
Beef (fresh)	8d. per lb.
Mutton (fresh)	1s. 3d. per lb.
Milk (fresh)	2d. to 2½d. per pint.
Flour	2d. per lb.
Salmon	10d. to 1s. 8d. per tin.
Fish	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Grain (whole peas)	2d. per pint.
Grain (split peas)	2d. per pint.
Tea	1s. 8d. to 3s. 4d. per lb.
Margarine	1s. per lb.
Coffee	1s. 8d. per lb.
Kerosene oil	2d. per pint.
Soap (household)	6d. per bar.
Cocoa	8d. per lb.
Bread (white)	4d. per lb.
Butter (fresh)	1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb.
Cheese	1s. 6d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 3d. per dozen.

In the case of Government officials, quarters, partly furnished, are provided for the Colonial Secretary (on payment of rent), and unfurnished quarters, free of rent, for the Director of Agriculture, the Inspector-General of Police, and a few other officials. Head teachers at the principal schools are provided with quarters and, in some instances, unmarried teachers are also provided with quarters. The cost of accommodation including meals at the two principal hotels is from 12s. 6d. a day upwards. Private board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £12 per month. Laundry charges in the case of an unmarried officer amount to about £1 10s. a month, and transport to about £5 a month. These figures apply in the case of an officer appointed from abroad; local officers can of course live more cheaply. Unfurnished or furnished houses in residential districts are obtained only with difficulty; the normal rent in the case of the former is about £100 a year and in the case of the latter about £150 a year.

The cost of living for the labouring classes is moderate. The price of clothing has decreased considerably during recent years. The staple diet of the labourers is rice, flour, sugar, cornmeal, local root crops such as sweet potatoes, yams, cassava, and eddoes, fresh and salt fish, pickled pork, beef, margarine, cotton-seed oil, milk, eggs, vegetables, and fruit.

The following comparison between the staple food-stuffs of the average labourer and his wages is recorded :—

1 lb. Flour=2d. ... ... 2s. per day=12 lb.
1 lb. Rice=2d. ... ... 2s. per day=12 lb.
1 lb. Cornmeal=$1\frac{3}{4}$d. ... 2s. per day=$13\frac{5}{7}$ lb.
1 lb. Fresh beef=8d. ... 2s. per day=3 lb.
1 lb. Bread=4d. ... ... 2s. per day=6 lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The schools of the Island, though largely assisted, and, in the case of elementary schools, entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 128 in 1932; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English Universities. The Cambridge Junior Local or the Lower Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board is also taken by pupils of both second- and first-grade schools.

In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1932 was 23,944 and the average attendance 16,621 an increase of 266 and 691 respectively as compared with the figures for 1931.

To the number of second-grade schools no additions have been made during the year. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1932 was 405 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 167.

The three first-grade schools are Harrison College, and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendance at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1932 were 261 and 174 respectively. The Lodge School, in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 102, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. At this school attend a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from fifteen to twenty. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. Most of the College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but they have been restored and were re-opened in June, 1931. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

The total grant for education purposes, exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls, in 1932 was £50,882, of which £1,284 was the cost of office staff, etc., £9,410 grants to first- and second-grade schools, £1,022 for University education, and £37,766 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses.

School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in eight schools, while twenty-five schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work and brush-making. A cooking class has been started at two girls' schools, as well as a class for the instruction of teachers in domestic science.

Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (No. 31), 14 apprentices completed their apprenticeship period of 5 years and the Education Board have issued to them certificates of competence as journeymen tradesmen. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is left entirely to the assistance of men engaged in work themselves and is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc., during working hours. Masters and apprentices are paid allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. 0d. a year from public funds.

The Colony was visited in January, 1932, by a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to report on and submit recommendations for the improvement of the educational system. The Commission's Report was published simultaneously in the British West Indies on the 19th of April, 1933.

The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 112 teachers, 64 male and 48 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 84 (43 male and 41 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant of £600 from the Government. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education. There is at present no provision for the medical and dental inspection of school children.

At the Boys' Industrial School and the Girls' Reformatory the number of inmates was 90 and 12 respectively. During the year the Salvation Army continued the after-care of youths and girls on discharge from these institutions, providing them with temporary accommodation, finding them employment when possible, and keeping in subsequent touch with them. Provision to meet the actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by the Salvation Army in connexion with the scheme is included in the Colonial Estimates. In addition to school and religious instruction, boys are taught certain crafts, including carpentry, tailoring, and masonry, and are given instruction in agriculture—applicable to the requirements of plantations—and the care of animals. Under the instruction of a Seamstress Matron, girls at the Reformatory make all the clothing required at the institution, and classes are held in plain and fancy work. Cooking is also taught.

The health at both institutions has been good.

As regards provision for the public welfare, it is the special duty of the Parish Vestries to provide for the aged, sick, and poor. All the almshouses are maintained to the standard of cottage hospitals.

There is in existence a Women's Social Welfare League which continues to do good work in the Colony. The Baby Welfare League and the Family Welfare League are subsidiary organizations of the first-named League. The Girls' Industrial Union provides useful training for its members in the following crafts:—cookery, sewing, basket-making, fancy-work, as well as the arts—music, drawing, and painting.

There are well organized branches of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Girls' Friendly Society. The Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides organizations play an important part in the life of the youth of the Colony.

There were 228 Friendly Societies on the Register on the 31st of December, 1932. These Societies provide their members with a Christmas bonus, relief in sickness, and assist in the payment of the funeral expenses of members and their dependents. The number of members in all Societies at the 30th of June, 1932, was 40,950; the number of dependents of the above members was 99,051; the total contributions paid by members for the year ended the 31st of December, 1931, was £46,460.

The principal outdoor games are cricket, football, and tennis. Hockey is played at one or two schools and there is an up-to-date golf club. There is also a chess club.

Ample facilities for sea-bathing exist along the southern and western coasts of the Island as well as on isolated spots along the eastern and northern coasts. There are two aquatic clubs and a Royal yacht club.

The Barbados Rifle Association composed of military and civilian members is allowed to use the Government rifle range (up to 600 yards), and encourages rifle shooting under Bisley and Service conditions. Visiting inter-colonial rifle shooting competitions with Trinidad and British Guiana are also carried out annually.

There are two cinematograph theatres. No dramatic companies visited the Colony during the year, but the concert parties of His Majesty's ships calling at Bridgetown gave variety entertainments.

A Naval Welfare League is also carried on under the auspices of the Women's Social Welfare League. The Naval Welfare League was formed to entertain the warrant officers, petty officers and men of warships visiting this Island and fulfils a very useful purpose.

There is a Carnegie Free Library, which is supported from public funds. To this is attached a lecture hall which is occasionally used for musical recitals. Within recent years a juvenile branch has been established at the Public Library and the original building is now proving inadequate for its various functions. The Barbados Literary Society and the Forum Club are doing useful work.

The Barbados Choral Society gave their usual programme of Christmas music at the Cathedral, and regular monthly organ recitals were given during the year. The Police band also rendered its usual programmes at the Hastings Rocks, Queen's Park, and the Garrison Savannah.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The Island has a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of eleven Boards of Highways Commissioners.

As stated elsewhere in this Report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparativey small area is served by no less than 280 miles of main roads and approximately 190 miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use. It must be borne in mind that with a population of over 1,000 to the square mile, the problem of maintaining communications has to be approached rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

Up to ten or fifteen years ago—before the advent of self-propelled vehicles—Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficiency of funds, led to their rapid deterioration.

The first definite step towards improving and preserving them was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct, the arterial roads radiating from Bridgetown. It was estimated that the roads classified as arterial roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile, and that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the city of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the Parish of Saint Michael was transferred to the Central Road Board. An additional and urgent task was thus imposed upon the Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926-27, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1932-33, the sum of £162,453 has been spent on 85 miles of seven arterial roads plus £80,109 from Government grants and Parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's Parish.

Railways.

A light railway, twenty-four miles long, runs through the southern parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £11,500. The actual expenditure, including extraordinary outlay, was £11,163 and the actual revenue £7,805.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years :—

	1932.	1931.	1930.
Passengers	69,393	58,877	83,571
Live Stock	120	139	109
Goods :—	*Tons.*	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses	17,385	7,515	15,675
Canes	10,478	4,060	7,204
Fuel	213	87	232
Sundries	3,560	4,932	7,867
	31,636	16,594	30,978

Omnibuses.

Owing to the configuration of the land and the improved condition of the roads, practically the whole of the Island is accessible to motor vehicles. The city of Bridgetown and its suburbs are supplied with a well equipped motor omnibus service which is run by the General Motor Omnibus Company, a company whose advent was responsible for the closing down of the Bridgetown Tramways Company a few years ago. Omnibuses leave the terminus in Trafalgar Square every quarter of an hour for the seaside districts of Hastings, Rockley, Saint Lawrence, and Fontabelle, as well as the popular inland residential districts. There is a regular daily service inwards on mornings and outwards on evenings from the country districts.

Fares are down to the very low level of 1½d. per section, which in some cases extends over two miles.

Posts.

There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain. Canada, the West Indian Colonies, and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines :—

Between Europe and West Indies :—

- Royal Netherlands Line
- Elders and Fyffes Line.
- Harrison Line.
- Leyland Line.
- Hamburg-Amerika Line.
- Compagnie Générale Transatlantique.

Between Canada, Boston, and British West Indian Colonies :—

Canadian National Steamship Company.

Between the United States of America, West Indies, Central and South America :—

Aluminum Line.

Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company.
Booth Line.
Ocean Dominion Line.
Munson Line.
Lamport and Holt Line.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below :—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*		*H.M. Ships.*	
	1931.	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1931.*	*1932.*
Mails for Barbados ...	534	529	5	6	25	33
Mails from Barbados...	520	493	49	53	1	—

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic communication is provided by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Telephones.

The Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, controls the telephone system in the Colony with the exception of a private branch exchange attached to the Police Department. The system extends throughout the Island, the total wire mileage being 5,400.

Wireless Telegraphy.

Wireless communication is maintained by the Imperial and International Communications, Limited, station at Bridgetown.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,089, with a net tonnage of 2,069,255 as compared with 1,086 vessels with a tonnage of 1,914,328 during the previous year. In addition nine ships of war, five yachts, and one training ship visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 708, while 734 were discharged. The estimated amount of money earned during the year as wages by seamen belonging to, and engaging in, the Colony for service on ships was £17,151 as compared with £20,900 for the previous year.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica, and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are the Harrison and the Leyland Lines from Liverpool direct, and the Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from London fortnightly.

The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) runs a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados and Central American ports, calling at Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth on the return.

The Fyffes Line (Elders and Fyffes Limited) make fortnightly sailings from Avonmouth calling at Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Cristobal, Port Limon, Jamaica, thence to Avonmouth. This company also carries out a fortnightly service to the West Indies sailing from Avonmouth thence to Jamaica, Santa Marta, La Guaira, Trinidad, Barbados, thence to Avonmouth. The duration of the voyage, Avonmouth-Barbados is thirteen days and from Barbados-Avonmouth, eleven days.

The Hamburg-Amerika Line operates a monthly service sailing from Hamburg via Antwerp, Southampton, Cherbourg, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Curaçao, Puerto Colombia, Cartagena, Cristobal to Port Limon. On the return journey, these vessels call at Plymouth and Amsterdam instead of at Southampton and Antwerp.

The Canadian National Steamship Company operates a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados. The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provides a fortnightly freight service between Halifax and Barbados. An irregular service is provided by freighters of the Canadian Transport Company; these vessels sail from Vancouver, B.C.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy), the Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Ocean Service), and the Munson Steamship Line. Ships of the Aluminum Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados *en route* to British and Dutch Guiana.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Three private banks are operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of the first-named bank is £4,975,500, while in the case of the other banks the figures are $35,000,000 and $30,000,000 respectively.

The Government Savings Bank.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which at the end of the year under review, there were 11,212 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £596,225. The value of the invested funds was £689,246. The figures for 1931 were, deposits £512,530, invested funds £661,721, and number of depositors 10,606. The number of depositors shows an increase of 606, and the total amount to their credit an increase of £83,695.

The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor in Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows:—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman, *ex officio*, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1932, after paying income-tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan, and salaries, etc., amounted to £6,799 0s. 9d.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1931, was £210,024, as compared with £203,225 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £2,897, as compared with £2,685 for the previous year.

Loans and interest due thereon are a first lien and charge against the plantation in respect of which the loan is made.

No changes have occurred in currency during the year. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The banks issue five-dollar notes equivalent to £1 0s. 10d., the exchange value being fixed at $4.80 to the pound sterling.

British imperial standard weights and measures are everywhere employed.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS

During this year the Waterworks and Public Works Departments were amalgamated into one department under the control of a Director of Public Works, forming a new Public Works Department responsible for waterworks and for the upkeep of all Government buildings including the military properties in the garrison, bridges, wharves, and lighthouses.

The roads and railways are each under separate control and are worked apart from the Public Works Department.

Works of importance in process of being carried out by the Department during the year were :—

(1) The building of an Engine and Boiler House and installation of a pumping plant at Bowmanston Pumping Station, the estimated cost of which is £30,000. This work will be completed during the following year.

(2) Work on the improvement of the Public Market, the estimated cost of which is £16,000, has been commenced. This work will be completed during the following year.

(3) A grant was received from the Colonial Development Fund for the establishment of a Central Venereal Diseases Clinic the erection of a building for which will be commenced early in the year 1933-34.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Superior Courts of the Island are presided over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction (not exceeding £50 at Common Law and £500 in Equity) is vested in two Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal. These Judges are also Judges of the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown. There are six Police Magistrates, four of whom in rural districts are also Judges of the Petty Debt Courts of those districts. From the decisions and judgments of Police Magistrates and Judges of Petty Debt Courts there is a right of appeal to the Assistant Court of Appeal, the Registrar of the Island sitting with a Judge of that Court to hear appeals from the other Judge in his capacity as Judge of the Petty Debt Court at Bridgetown.

The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £13,653.

Under the authority of Act No. 6 of 1929, Police Magistrates are authorized to allow time for the payment of fines or to allow payment of fines by instalments. Except in special cases, as, for instance, those against in transit seamen, the general practice is to allow time for the payment of fines.

Police.

The Police Force is composed of an Inspector-General, a Deputy Inspector-General, a Senior and a Junior Inspector, and 408 non-commissioned officers and men. Of these, forty-four, including four supernumeraries, are attached to the Harbour Police and perform regular harbour duties. An efficient band is attached to the Force.

The Inspector-General is also Commandant of the Local Forces and is charged also with the control of the Fire Brigade consisting of twenty-five men.

Prisons.

Glendairy Prison, in the Parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony and has accommodation for 275 males and 128 females. Instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, baking, and other crafts. The estimated value of work done in the carpenter's shop during 1932 for Government Departments was £175 8s. The bakery supplied approximately 30¼ tons of bread to the Mental and Leper Hospitals during the same period. All clothes-washing and cooking is done by the female prisoners.

Juvenile adult prisoners are segregated as far as possible from adults and are instructed in one of the above-named trades.

The Medical Officer attends the prison daily examining and prescribing for the sick when necessary; his orders are carefully carried out by male and female hospital attendants on the staff. The health of all the prisoners during 1932 was good.

During the year provision was made by the Juvenile Offenders Act, 1932 (No. 22), for the operation of Juvenile Courts. Probation Officers have been appointed under the Act, which became operative on 1st of September, 1932.

It is regretted that the recently formed Prisoners' Aid Society did not meet with the support which was anticipated and it has been dissolved.

The following is a comparative statement for the last three years:—

	1930.	1931.	1932.
Total number of persons committed to prison	1,250	1,490	1,174
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	29	36	29
Daily average in prison (males)	153	171	149
Daily average in prison (females)	31	35	31
Police Court convictions	10,105	10,344	9,975
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	459	422	250
Convictions by Superior Court	59	58	51

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts.

The Legislative Session 1932-33 opened on the 31st of May, 1932, and ended on the 30th of May, 1933. The following is the list of Acts already passed during the Session :—

1932.

No. 13. The Highways (Amendment) Act increases the taxes on animals, vehicles, and land authorized to be collected by Act No. 7 of 1900.

No. 14. The Wills (Amendment) Act brings the law into line with the law obtaining in England on the passing of the Wills Act, 1837.

No. 15. The Massiah Pension Act.

No. 16. The Emergency Control of Prices (Amendment) Act adds to the powers given to the Governor in Executive Committee in the event of a hurricane or earthquake the power to fix maximum charges to be made for the transport of necessary commodities and to appoint persons to control their distribution and transport.

No. 17. The Rates of Income-Tax Act.

No. 18. The Saint George's Parish (Barbados) Loan Act.

No. 19. The Carrington Pension Act.

No. 20. The Maintenance Order (Facilities for Enforcement) Amendment Act remedies a defect in the Maintenance Order (Facilities for Enforcement) Act, 1922.

No. 21. The Passports Act prohibits the landing in the Island of persons without the production of passports or other satisfactory evidence of identity.

No. 22. The Juvenile Offenders Act consolidates and amends the existing law with regard to offences committed by juveniles and establishes courts for the hearing of these offences.

No. 23. The Reformatory and Industrial School (Amendment) Act permits Magistrates in dealing with the cases of certain classes of boys to commit them to the care of fit persons instead of sending them to a Reformatory.

No. 24. The Reformatory and Industrial School Girls (Amendment) Act enlarges the classes of neglected or unfortunate girls who can be committed to a Reformatory or to the care of fit persons.

No. 25. The Master and Servant (Amendment) Act exempts domestic servants from the operation of section 4 of the Master and Servant Act, 1891, fixes a maximum of forty shillings for a fine or penalty imposed for a breach of that section which is substantially re-enacted, and provides for the allowing of time for the payment of the fine or penalty in every case.

No. 26. The Waterworks and Public Works Departments (Amalgamation) Act provides for the administration together as one department of two formerly separate Government Departments.

No. 27. The Governor of Glendairy Prison (Protection) Act gives to the Governor of Glendairy Prison and to persons acting under his authority when executing the writs of judicial officers protection similar to that given to constables by Act 1900-6.

No. 28. The Common Pleas (Amendment) Act abolishes the Statutory Sittings of the Court of Common Pleas.

No. 29. The Grand Sessions Act alters the dates fixed for the commencement of the Sittings of the Court of Grand Sessions to dates more convenient for the despatch of the business of the Court.

No. 30. The Public Health (Amendment) Act adds to the list of compulsorily notifiable diseases "acute poliomyelitis."

No. 31. The Corinthian, The Composite, and the Archers Pride Lodges Incorporation (Amendment) Act.

No. 32. The Plant Pest and Disease (Importation) Act controls the importation into the Island of planting material and of insects.

No. 33. The District Auctioneers (Amendment) Act.

No. 34. The Dangerous Drugs (Amendment) Act extends the provisions of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1926, to drugs capable of being converted into dangerous drugs.

No. 35. The Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1932, No. 2, implements the Ottawa Trade Agreements and makes other alterations in the tariff of Customs duties.

No. 36. The Travelling Allowance (Amendment) Act repeals a provision in the principal Act authorizing the Governor to compel an officer to keep a means of conveyance for the performance of his duties and provides for the payment of travelling allowance whether an officer keeps a means of conveyance or not.

No. 37. The Coroners Act consolidates the law relating to the holding of inquests formerly obtaining and allows a coroner to dispense with the holding of an inquest on certain conditions.

No. 38. The Merchant Shipping (Safety and Loadline) Convention Act places a restriction on the use of certain words when used in giving steering orders on British ships registered in the Island.

No. 39. The Lunacy (Amendment) Act permits of the appointment of a person who has acted as Assistant Medical Superintendent of the Lunatic Asylum in the Island for one year or more as Assistant Medical Superintendent of the institution.

No. 40. The Supplementary Appropriation Act.

No. 41. The Bodies Corporate (Joint Tenancy) Act enables bodies corporate to hold property in joint tenancy.

1933.

No. 1. The Petroleum (Amendment) Act provides for the payment into the Public Treasury to the credit of general revenue of a special charge on volatile petroleum formerly earmarked for interest and sinking fund on a loan to be raised for road purposes.

No. 2. The Public Loan Roads (Amendment) Act amends the sections of the principal Act dealing with interest and sinking fund and reduces the period of the loan from forty-seven to twenty-five years.

No. 3. The Leeward Islands Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists (Incorporation) Act.

No. 4. The Holford Pension Act.

No. 5. The Tudor Pension Act.

No. 6. The Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act brings the law with regard to the adulteration of food and drugs into line with the law as it exists in England.

No. 7. The Appropriation Act.

No. 8. The Expiring Laws Continuance Act.

No. 9. The Central Road Board (Amendment) Act enables a certain Central Authority created for the purpose of taking over the main arterial roads of the Island to repair a certain highway not before authorized to be repaired by the Central Authority.

The following subsidiary legislation was issued during the year :—

Proclamations.

(1) Notifying the appointment of the Honourable G. D. Owen, Colonial Secretary, to act as Governor during the absence on leave of His Excellency Sir W. C. F. Robertson, K.C.M.G.

(2) Appointing a day for special supplication to Almighty God for deliverance from storm and other calamities.

(3) Bringing into operation the Waterworks and Public Works Department Amalgamation Act, 1932 (No. 26).

(4) Prohibiting the planting of corn in certain areas.

(5) Declaring certain areas to be infected with mosaic disease.

(6) Notifying the appointment of the Honourable G. D. Owen, Colonial Secretary, to act as Governor on the retirement of Sir W. C. F. Robertson, K.C.M.G.

Orders.

(1) Appointing a close season for cotton.

(2) Appointing a close season for okras.

(3) Declaring that Part III of the Dangerous Drugs Act, 1926, shall apply to acetyldihydrocodeinone and its salts and any preparation, admixture, extract or other substance containing any proportion of acetyldihydrocodeinone.

(4) Declaring certain exemptions from the provisions of the Passports Act, 1932 (No. 21).

Rules and Regulations.

(1) Prohibiting the importation of animals from Trinidad owing to the existence of rabies.

(2) Building Regulations. Fixing the minimum length and breadth of houses erected in certain districts.

(3) Amendment to Building Regulations.

(4) Regulations under Dangerous Drugs Act, relating to morphine.

(5) Regulations under Dangerous Drugs Act, relating to raw opium.

(6) Franking (postage meter) machines.

(7) Regulations controlling the importation and exportation of explosives and volatile petroleum.

(8) Regulations under Licensed Places of Public Entertainment Act.

(9) Motor Omnibus Regulations, 1932.

(10) Motor Omnibus Regulations, fixing stopping places.

(11) Motor Omnibus Regulations, closing certain roads to traffic.

(12) Parcel Post to United Kingdom and British Colonies.

(13) Parcel Post to United States of America.

(14) Parcel Post to France.

(15) Postal Order Service (Br[illegible]).

(16) Limiting weight of postal packets.

(17) Postmen's Uniform.

(18) Sea Conveyance of parcel mails.

(19) Amendment to Regulations respecting sea conveyance of parcel mails.

(20) Sick Leave Regulations.

(21) Store of petroleum in bulk.

(22) Traffic Regulations at Amateur Athletic Sports.

(23) Traffic Regulations for fireworks display at Hastings Rocks.

(24) Vendors of postage stamps.

(25) Vestry Exhibitions at Queen's College.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1928-29	441,732	459,626
1929-30	453,802	450,696
1930-31	404,555	429,143
1931-32	415,645	424,088
1932-33	457,843	425,875

Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve funds set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1933, was £33,066.

Special Funds.

	£	s.	d.
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	61,567	14	7
Water Boat Renewal Fund	13,481	5	6
Red Cross Fund	1,947	15	1
Public Officers' Security Fund	10,915	19	2
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	31,442	9	7
	£219,355	3	11

Revenue.

The revenue for 1932-33 shows an increase of £42,198 over that of the previous year, the principal head showing an increase being " Customs " £23,877. The increase under all heads was £58,373, while the decreases totalled £27,959. The decreases are due generally to fluctuations in business.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1932-33 was £425,875,, an increase of £1,767 as compared with the previous year. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads " Police ", " Education ", " Medical ", and " Waterworks." The expenditure under these heads was as follows :—

	£	Compared with 1931-32.	£
Police	44,606	an increase of ...	397
Education ...	50,032	a decrease of ...	3,405
Medical	41,714	a decrease of ...	4,442
Waterworks ...	44,931	a decrease of ...	389
	£181,283		

The total expenditure on these four Departments, £181,283, represents 42.5 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

Special expenditure on restoration of roads amounted to £24,338. The question as to the proportion of road charges involved in the work of reconstruction now being carried out which may properly be allocated to loan funds had not been finally decided at the end of the year.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the 31st of March, 1933, was £649,000, the Sinking Fund on that date being £370,671 as compared with £368,839 in 1932. The loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1933, were as follows :—

Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.* £	s.	d.	*Amount outstanding.* £	s.	d.	*Sinking Fund.* £	s.	d.	*Date Redeemable.*
Water-Works Loan Act, 1894	375,000	0	0	375,000	0	0	328,647	3	0	15th March, 1942.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	10,611	5	1	£11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Act, 1917, Special Loan Act, 1917 (No. 2), Special Loan Act, 1920, and Special Loan (Amendment) Act, 1922, Special Loan Act, 1922	147,000	0	0	147,000	0	0	29,284	13	8	£35,000 August, 1964. £30,000 February, 1965. £40,000 March, 1968. £25,000 April, 1969. £17,000 May, 1969.
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000	0	0	90,000	0	0	2,128	10	10	£25,000 October, 1975. £65,000 7th October, 1978.
	£649,000	0	0	£649,000	0	0	£370,671	12	7	

The revenue derived from the main heads of taxation during the year was as follows:—Customs £220,716, Excise Duty on Rum and Distillers' Licences £55,921, and Income Tax £25,739. The Stamp Act, 1916-17, and the amendments thereto impose duties for the use of the Island upon the several instruments specified in the Schedules to the said Act. Revenue derived from this source during the year was:—embossing cheques, £734; licences on note issue of banks, £225; and sale of stamps for revenue purposes under the Stamp Act, £2,833.

Customs Tariff (summarized). The Customs Tariff Act at present in force is Act No. 20 of the year 1921 as amended by Act No. 25 of the year 1926 which substituted a new tariff of duties. Further amendments were effected by Act No. 10 of 1927, Act No. 10 of 1930, Act No. 2 of 1932 and Act No. 35 of 1932.

These Acts provide for preferential and general rates of duty, the former rates applying to all articles of British Empire origin, the latter to goods from foreign sources.

The revenue derived from specific duties is approximately twice that received from *ad valorem* duties, high rates of specific duties being imposed on luxury articles such as spirits, wines, and tobacco while *ad valorem* duties are generally fixed at 10 per cent. preferential and 20 per cent. general rate, the general being usually twice the preferential rate.

In addition to the duties levied under the Acts mentioned above there is a 10 per cent. surtax imposed by the Act No. 16 of 1929.

There are no export duties.

Agricultural implements and machinery for the manufacture of sugar and its products, including rum and for other local manufactures are on the list of goods free of duty.

There is no hut or poll tax in force in the Colony.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency the Governor Sir W. C. F. Robertson, K.C.M.G., whose tour of service had been extended for one year at the request of the Legislature of the Colony, retired from office during the year. His Excellency left the Colony on the 16th of November, 1932, on leave prior to retirement.

On the 21st of January, 1933, Mr. Harry Scott Newlands, C.M.G., the newly-appointed Governor, arrived in the Colony and assumed the administration of the Government. He died suddenly on Sunday, 12th March, and was buried in the churchyard of Saint Michael's Cathedral on the following day.

During the year under review the Colony received a visit from Mr. F. A. Stockdale, C.M.G., C.B.E., Agricultural Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, the main object of whose visit to the West Indies was to discuss with the authorities of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture in Trinidad the work of the College, and to ascertain the present-day conditions of the agricultural industries in the several Colonies, while studying the work being performed by the different Departments of Agriculture to assist these industries.

Mr. Stockdale called at Barbados on passage to other West Indian Islands on the 10th of February and 19th of March, 1932. He again arrived at Barbados on the 4th of May and sailed for England on the 17th of May.

During his visit he inspected thoroughly the working of the Department of Science and Agriculture and examined the conditions of cultivation throughout the Island.

Another visitor of importance during the year was Major Waley, Assistant International Commissioner at Imperial Headquarters of the Boy Scouts Association. He arrived in Barbados during the first week of April, 1932, while on a visit to the West Indies in connexion with Scouting.

Mr. E. A. Savage, Librarian of the Edinburgh Public Libraries, visited the British West Indies at the request of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, for the purpose of reporting upon the public and other libraries in these Islands. Mr. Savage paid two visits to Barbados during his tour, the former being on the 26th of January, 1933, when he inspected the Public Library and the libraries at Harrison College, Queen's College, Lodge School, Codrington High School, and Codrington College. On his second visit which lasted two days, namely, the 11th and 12th of February, he visited the Saint Michael's Girls' School, Combermere School, and the Alexandra School. On both occasions he conferred with the Trustees of the Public Library on matters affecting the extension of the present Carnegie Free Library the needs of which call for increased accommodation.

Owing to the low price of sea island cotton, due to the great decline in the demand for long staple cotton by cotton spinners in the United Kingdom, the outlook for the industry has been very serious in recent years. A conference of the cotton-producing islands of Barbados, Saint Vincent, Montserrat, Saint Kitts, Antigua, Nevis, and Anguilla was convened at Barbados in March and April, 1932, to discuss matters of importance such as (1) the type of cotton to be grown, (2) the restriction of output, (3) the provision of a market for sea island cotton goods and (4) the general improvement of the industry.

The carrying out of the recommendations of the Conference necessitates the formation of local associations in the cotton-growing islands and with that object in view a Barbados Cotton Growers' Association has been formed. The Association held its first meeting on the 17th of March, 1933, and adopted a set of rules.

Visits of detachments of His Majesty's Atlantic Fleet such as those which were paid to the Colony during the spring cruises of

1931 and 1932 were not resumed this year, but the Island received a visit from Vice-Admiral the Honourable R. A. R. Plunkett-Ernle-Erle-Drax, C.B., D.S.O., Commander-in-Chief, America and West Indies Station, in his flagship H.M.S. *Norfolk* during the month of January, 1933. Prior to this, H.M.S. *Danae* of the same Station visited the Colony in September, 1932. H.M.S. *Frobisher*, which was specially fitted out as a training ship, visited the Colony from the 15th to the 28th February on a cruise of West Indian waters, and H.M.C.S. *Champlain* and *Saguenay* arrived on a short stay during the last week of March. The Spanish Training Ship *Juan Sebastian Elcano* also called at Barbados in March, 1933.

A Central Sugar-cane Breeding Station for the West Indian area located in Barbados was inaugurated in October, 1932. Assistance for the working of the Station is provided from Empire Marketing Board funds.

The Barbados Publicity Committee was formed in the year under review for the purpose of advertising the Colony. So far they have issued a booklet on Barbados and are now dealing with tourist amenities in general.

APPENDIX.

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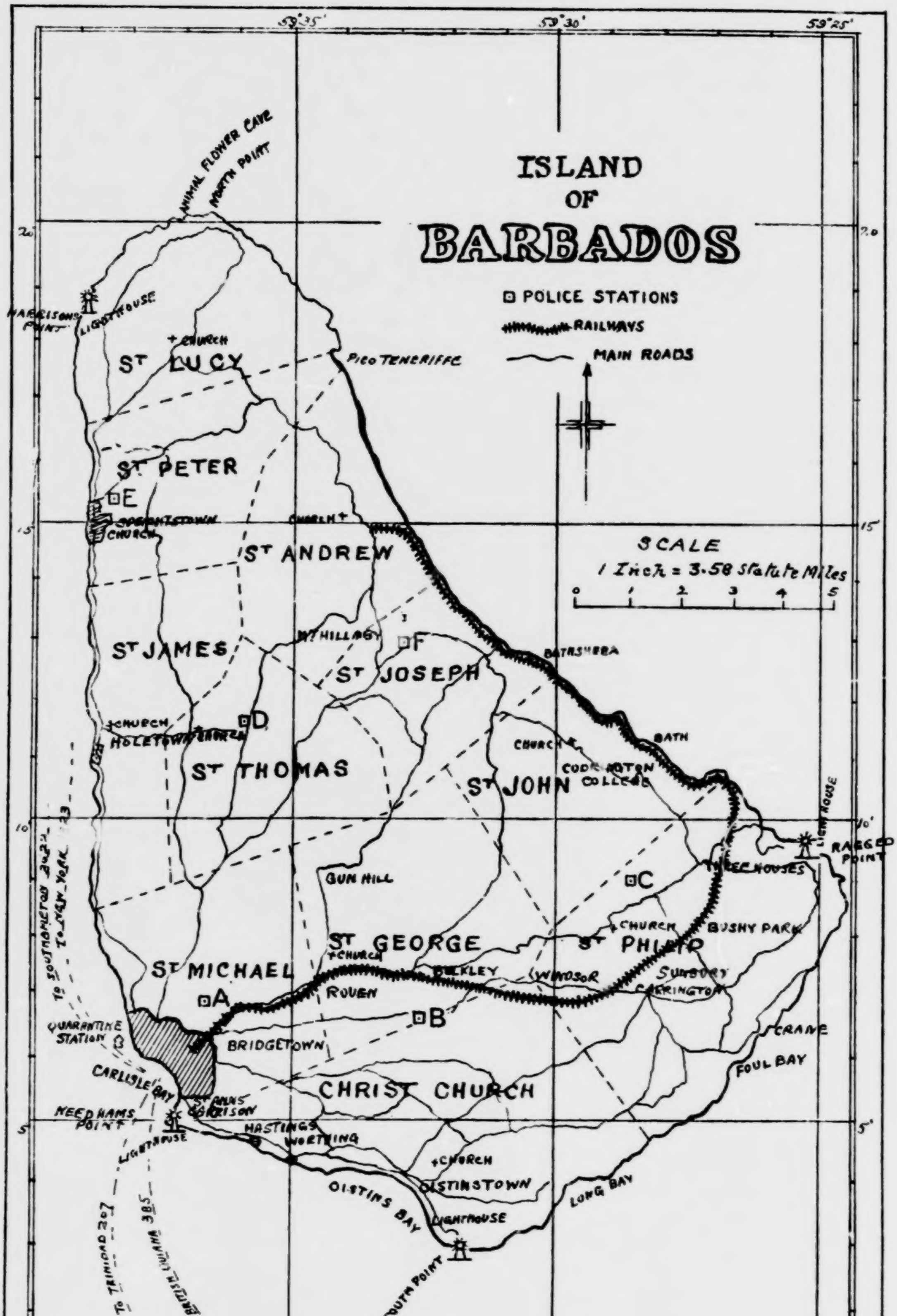
The booklet issued by the Barbados Publicity Committee can be obtained from local stationers at one shilling per copy.


ISLAND OF BARBADOS
▣ POLICE STATIONS
RAILWAYS
MAIN ROADS
SCALE
1 Inch = 3.58 Statute Miles
0 1 2 3 4 5
59°35'
59°30'
59°25'
20'
15'
10'
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ANIMAL FLOWER CAVE
NORTH POINT
HARRISONS POINT
LIGHTHOUSE
+CHURCH
ST LUCY
PICO TENERIFFE
ST PETER
E
SPEIGHTSTOWN
CHURCH
CHURCH+
ST ANDREW
MT HILLABY
F
ST JAMES
ST JOSEPH
BATHSHEBA
+CHURCH
HOLETOWN
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ST THOMAS
BATH
CHURCH+
CODRINGTON COLLEGE
ST JOHN
LIGHTHOUSE
RAGGED POINT
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GUN HILL
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ST PHILIP
ST GEORGE
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BARBADOS FOR 1933-34

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is twenty-one miles long by fourteen miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles with a population at the end of 1933 of 180,055. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed eighty settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629 in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for twenty-one years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663 and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands.

The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies, while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find in it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados :—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

Unlike most of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Barbados possesses a representative Legislature but not full responsible government. The Crown retains only the right of veto on legislation, but the Home Government retains the appointment and control of the public officers, except the Colonial Treasurer who is nominated annually by the House of Assembly and his appointment confirmed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the King, and a House of Assembly of twenty-four members, elected annually on the basis of a moderate franchise.

The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

For electoral purposes the Island is divided into twelve constituencies, viz., the City of Bridgetown, and the eleven parishes of Saint Michael, Saint George, Christ Church, Saint Philip, Saint John, Saint Joseph, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint James, Saint Peter, and Saint Lucy, each of which returns two members to the General Assembly. The qualifications of members and electors are regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2). The Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9) regulates the procedure at elections of members to serve in the General Assembly or in the several Vestries of the Island.

The total number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls at the present time is 5,058 and is made up as follows:—

Bridgetown: 783; Saint Michael: 1,593; Christ Church: 710; Saint George: 329; Saint Philip: 274; Saint John: 122; Saint Joseph: 129; Saint Andrew: 232; Saint Peter: 240; Saint Lucy: 198; Saint James: 213; Saint Thomas: 235.

The total at the time of the last election—July, 1933—was 5,023. It is now nearer the number included in 1931 which was 5,155.

The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 6·3 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 16·6 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last (1921) census returns.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Executive Council appointed by the Crown, and consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, *ex officio*, and two other members. The Executive Committee—appointed under the provisions of the Executive Committee Act, 1891 (No. 24)—consists of the members of the Executive Council, *ex officio*, one member of the Legislative Council, and four members of the House of Assembly, nominated annually by the Governor. This body introduces all money votes, prepares the Estimates and initiates all Government measures.

Local government is in the hands of eleven Parish Boards or Vestries. The Vestry is elected annually under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2) and the Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9). The Rector of the parish is *ex officio* Chairman of the Vestry. The functions of the Vestry include the appointment of Guardians for the care of the sick and poor, of Commissioners of Health for the control of sanitation, and of Highway Commissioners for the upkeep of roads. To provide funds for these purposes the Vestries levy rates on lands and houses, and taxes on trade, vehicles, draught animals, etc.

III.—POPULATION.

The population on 31st December, 1933, was estimated to be 180,055, 80,143 being males and 99,912 females. The increase over the estimated total for 1932 is 3,181 or 1·8 per cent., and is made up as follows:—

Natural increase, births exceeding deaths by ...	1,723
and immigration exceeding emigration by ...	1,458
	3,181

Estimates of population so calculated have usually been found to be exaggerated when a census is taken.

Based on the returns given in the last census (1921) the population is made up as follows:—

White	7 per cent.
Black	71 ,,
Mixed	22 ,,

The last census was taken in 1921; therefore the figures given in the last paragraph, as well as this, are only approximations. The tendency for large numbers of the urban population to drift into the metropolitan parish of Saint Michael is very pronounced, and has been much encouraged during the last two decades by the indiscriminate dividing and selling or letting of land lots which was not controlled until 1928. The following shows, with as reasonable a degree of accuracy as is expected in such approximations, the estimated numbers in each parish as well as the density per square mile.

Parish.	*Estimated population.*	*Density.*
Saint Michael	65,000	4,335
Christ Church	23,000	1,029
Saint George	14,500	861
Saint Philip	15,000	638
Saint John	10,000	744
Saint James	10,500	861
Saint Thomas	8,000	602
Saint Peter	9,000	692
Saint Lucy	8,500	625
Saint Joseph	8,000	851
Saint Andrew	8,500	626

The average density per square mile for the Island is 1,205.

Marriages.

There were 1,063 marriages performed during 1933, 784 by the Church of England, 100 by the Methodists, 39 by the Moravians, 16 by the Roman Catholics, 17 were civil, and the remainder divided between 19 other denominations.

The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 11·9.

The illiterate percentage among those married during the year is 17·7 as against 15·6 last year.

Births and Deaths.

The following are the figures for the last five years:—

	Births.			*Deaths.*		
Year.	*No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Percentage uncertified.*
1929	5,421	32·04	63·37	4,016	23·74	3·3
1930	5,596	32·67	62·85	3,954	23·08	2·4
1931	4,853	28·06	60·46	4,488	25·95	2·0
1932	5,391	30·76	59·69	3,325	18·97	2·2
1933	5,316	29·79	59·91	3,593	20·13	2·6

Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality rate has increased from 198 last year to 235.

Immigration and Emigration.

Each year of the past decade, with the exception of 1928, shows an increase of immigration over emigration. This increase in 1933 amounted to 1,458, the average net increase for each year being 1,035. Statistics are not available to show other details of the migration of the population.

IV.—HEALTH.

General, Principal Causes of Death, etc.

The climate is salubrious and semi-tropical. The maximum temperature varies between 82° Fahr. in the cool months and 90° Fahr. in the hot season, the minimum being between 69° Fahr. and 73° Fahr. The Island is a natural health resort.

Malaria made its appearance in the Island in October, 1927; but since 17th October, 1929, no new case has occurred, and no anopheline mosquito larvae have been found since January, 1930.

The causes of death are classified in accordance with the Intermediate International list of Causes of Deaths as adopted for use in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, some being further sub-divided to meet local requirements.

The following are the principal diseases or groups of diseases responsible for the mortality :—

Causes.	*Total deaths.*
Syphilis	514*
Diarrhoea and enteritis	433†
Diseases of the heart	246
Old age	219
‡Nephritis	211
Pneumonia	211
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	200
Diseases of arteries and veins	172
‡Congenital debility	165
Cancer	109
Other diseases of early infancy	107
Tuberculosis	101
Bronchitis	96
‡Pellagra	88

---

* Of these 413 were under the age of 5 years.
† „ „ 389 „ „ „ 5 „
‡ Possibly related to diet deficiencies.

There was 33 per cent. less typhoid in 1933 than in 1932 which was itself not a year of high incidence.

Treatment of the Sick, Medical Assistance, etc.

The General Hospital with an X-ray department is maintained by the Government and controlled by a Board of Directors. The surgical wards are excellently equipped and work of a very high order is done. Patients from any parish sent in accordance with very liberal rules, are received and treated free. There are also pay wards of two grades attached. The resident staff consists of 3 surgeons, a matron, an assistant matron, a tutor sister, a theatre sister, a pay ward sister, and 74 local nurses. The visiting staff consists of 3 visiting surgeons, 3 assistant visiting surgeons, 2 ophthalmic surgeons, 1 dental surgeon, 1 radiologist and a masseuse.

The Government also maintains a well organized Mental Hospital and a Leper Hospital. Treatment on recognized up-to-date lines is carried out at both institutions. Persons who were inmates of the Leper Hospital and have been discharged as cured are assisted from Government funds if found to be in need.

Each parish maintains an almshouse. These eleven almshouses, besides being places of refuge for the destitute poor, are in most, if not all, instances practically cottage hospitals. Isolation hospitals are also provided by each parish and would be available in time of epidemic disease.

In each parish there is a Parochial Medical Officer (in Saint Michael, two) whose duty it is to attend the sick poor, either in their homes or at the almshouse, free or at reduced fees. Dispensaries for the cheap supply of medicine are maintained in seven of the eleven parishes; in the other four the Parochial Medical Officer or a local druggist is paid to supply medicine free.

A baby welfare clinic is conducted voluntarily by a committee of ladies, assisted by a medical practitioner, and does very good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds. The Government and Vestry of Saint Michael each grant the organization £150 per annum. Any expenditure beyond this has to be made up from donations and subscriptions by private individuals, etc. The number of "new" babies entered for treatment was 266, and 1,038 pints of milk and 1,067 lb. of barley were distributed free.

Venereal diseases clinics have been established at the General Hospital by the Government, and by the parochial authorities, with certain assistance from the Government clinic, in Saint George, Saint John, Saint James, Saint Thomas, Saint Peter, Saint Lucy, Saint Joseph and Saint Andrew.

Organization.

The organization for public health work consists of a Chief Medical Officer, the General Board of Health, and eleven Boards of Commissioners of Health (one for each parish). The Chief

Medical Officer is appointed for a period of three years and the Boards annually. The Port Health Officer and his Assistant are responsible for all quarantine measures.

The General Board of Health employs six inspectors for general work throughout the Island, and the Boards of Commissioners of Health employ seventy, twenty-four being in Saint Michael and twelve in Christ Church.

Drainage Works, etc.

There are very few swampy places in Barbados, and it has not been considered necessary for the Government or parishes to undertake drainage works.

V.—HOUSING.

Wage-earners.

The general standard of sanitary arrangements of the cottages of the wage-earning population and peasant proprietors is very low. These cottages, which are almost invariably constructed of wood with shingled roofs, are small, and generally much overcrowded.

About 67 per cent. of the entire population of the Island lives in cottages of less than three rooms, the kitchen, if there is one, or other arrangements for cooking, being separate. Very few are provided with sanitary arrangements which can be considered even moderately satisfactory. The letting separately of rooms in a building is not extensively practised except in certain parts of Bridgetown. Labourers on plantations and in factories live near the estates in small detached cottages often owned by themselves but on rented land. Frequent inspections and the enforcement of the sanitary laws are the means relied on for dealing with the primitive sanitary arrangements in slum areas. About 75 per cent. of the occupants own the cottages or houses in which they live, but few own the land on which the buildings stand.

Better class of houses, etc.

The better class of house is well constructed and is usually supplied with a water-borne system of sewage disposal with which little, if any, fault can be found. These houses are also in almost every case connected with the Government waterworks system which furnishes a very pure, continuous, piped supply. There are 559 standposts at which good drinking water can be obtained free of charge. Except in localities which are difficult of access, it is rare that any dwelling is situated farther than half-a-mile from a standpost.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The production of sugar during the past three years has exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the island and that this increased output has not been entirely due to favourable weather conditions will be obvious from the appended table:—

	Over 5 year periods.	
	Average production in tons.	*Average rainfall in inches.*
1880-84	53,717	65·32
1885-89	61,618	65·78
1890-94	62,998	71·68
1895-99	48,232	71·78
1900-04	52,764	65·63
1905-09	48,353	55·43
1910-14	51,885	55·11
1915-19	67,413	62·45
1920-24	55,995	45·92
1925-29	78,214	55·31
1930-34	94,752*	60·53

The rainfalls are taken in every case from the year previous to that in which an individual crop was reaped.

The gradual increase of over 76 per cent. from the beginning to the end of the period is due to a variety of causes the chief amongst which are improved milling, more efficient control of pests and above all to improved sugar-cane varieties.

While the production has increased, the cost of production has decreased and this even in spite of the large increase in this direction during and immediately after the Great War.

This decrease has been brought out by the steady fall in the world price of sugar having compelled plantation owners to restrict expenditure to a minimum and also by their having very largely adopted the more rational (and incidentally much more economical) system of manuring recommended by the Department of Science and Agriculture.

During the year the British West Indian Central Sugar-Cane Breeding Station was established by a grant from the Empire Marketing Board and it is gratifying to be able to state that a further grant has been made from the Colonial Development Fund to enable the work to be carried on until 30th September, 1935, after which time it is hoped that the sugar industry in the other islands of the British West Indies may be prepared to finance the scheme.

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* Estimating the 1934 production conservatively at 112,000 tons.

Sugar-cane breeding has been carried out in Barbados for upwards of thirty years, and many sugar growing communities have availed themselves of the varieties produced in the Colony, but in the past no direct efforts were made to produce canes to suit conditions not obtaining in Barbados—now, however, the grant is being devoted to the production of varieties which, it is hoped, will prove economically successful in Trinidad, Jamaica, Antigua, Saint Kitts and Saint Lucia even though they may be unsuitable to Barbados conditions. Barbados is still providing the funds for its own cane breeding problems, but with the grant from Imperial sources the scope and, it is considered, the usefulness of the work will embrace a greatly extended field.

The formation of the British West Indian Sea-Island Cotton Association during 1933 has been observed with extreme satisfaction in the Colony as the collapse of the cotton market and the lack of an export trade in ground provisions has compelled planters to leave more land under sugar-cane. Even with the most careful cultivation and organization for the control of pests and diseases such a course can only be viewed with the gravest concern and may eventually result in a much diminished production.

Great hopes are, therefore, entertained that the Sea-Island Cotton Industry may be revived and that some means may be found to re-establish our export trade in ground provisions.

The situation with regard to peasant agriculture remains as it was a year ago. A few peasant proprietors are making a success out of their holdings but in the vast majority of cases a peasant's crop can be distinguished at a glance from that of a plantation by the poverty of the former.

Government is shortly establishing a scheme whereby bona fide smallholders may obtain credit on easy terms for the cultivation of their land, and it is hoped that improving world conditions will be reflected in Barbados so that a comprehensive scheme of agricultural instruction may become available for the " smaller " men.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Colony as well as that of imports and exports is shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total trade.*
	£	£	£
1929	2,039,601	1,287,300	3,326,901
1930	1,731,786	1,062,916	2,794,702
1931	1,491,644	1,064,051	2,555,695
1932	1,656,876	1,379,006	3,035,882
1933	1,740,161	1,378,705	3,118,866

The particulars of goods imported and entered for transhipment during the last five years is shown below. Values are no longer kept but only the number of packages.

	£	*No. of packages.*
1929	196,654	—
1930	181,171	—
1931	154,6	—
1932	185,415	—
1933	—	182,007

Imports during 1933, as compared with 1932, show an increase of £83,285. The principal increases of imports are seen in the following:—cattle, £3,584; mules, £5,726; apparel, £6,620; bags and sacks, empty, £2,868; boots and shoes, £3,929; butter £3,447; oilmeal and oilcake, £3,341; cement, £2,800; cotton piece-goods, £13,260; beans and peas, £3,554; hardware, £3,546; chemical manures, £25,337; machinery, all kinds, £17,068; pork, salted, £5,479; oil, edible, £13,240; kerosene, £2,547; paints and colours, £4,207; cotton seed, £3,800; wood, unmanufactured—pitch pine, £6,331; wool and woollen manufactures, £3,670; parcel post, £4,527.

The principal decreases occurred in:—bran and pollard, £2,628; cotton manufactures, other, £11,719; coal, £2,584; fish, dried, salted or smoked, £2,283; flour, wheaten and rye, £29,760; rice, £20,167; beef, salted, £6,215; gasolene, £9,604; sugar, refined, £2,979; tea, £4,004; wood, unmanufactured—white pine, spruce, etc., £13,203 and staves and shooks, £6,031.

For the five years prior to 1933 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 13,235 tons. In 1933 the number of tons taken was 1,126. The following figures relate to the export of coal during the last five years:—

Year.	*Steamships.*	*Tons of coal.*
1929	101	22,008
1930	56	9,224
1931	33	7,143
1932	12	1,390
1933	10	1,126

The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin whence comes the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade :—

	1929.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	33·9	33·8	34·7	45·6	48·0
Canada	18·7	15·5	17·7	15·1	11·8
Other parts of the British Empire	17·6	19·3	18·2	18·1	17·5
United States of America ...	19·6	19·7	18·8	10·2	10·4
Other foreign countries ...	10·2	11·7	10·6	11·0	12·3

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1933, exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	819,936
Canada	205,640
Other parts of the British Empire	299,348
United States of America	180,346
Other foreign countries	213,591

Total imports are classified as follows :—

Food, drink, etc.	569,020
Raw materials	167,915
Manufactured articles	911,686
Animals not for food	23,570
	1,672,191
Specie, articles seized, parcel post, and baggage warehouse	67,970
	£1,740,161

Imports of bullion and specie amounted to £21,300.

The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	731	62
Butter	526	—
Oilmeal (cattle food)	4,258	25,946
Cornmeal	1	10,095
Fish (salted)	12,664	—
Flour	16,240	78
Oats	18,613	1
Manures	—	2,420
Salt beef	1,811	2,802
Salt pork	13,963	7,743
Wood (various) (manufactured and unmanufactured) ...	66,566	38,341

The total value of exports was £1,378,705, of which £1,258,193 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £120,512 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows :—

	1929.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
Sugar—					
Tons	**65,517**	**50,444**	**34,422**	**74,710**	**78,994**
Value £ ...	**722,389**	**473,152**	**360,639**	**732,948**	**788,183**
Molasses—					
Gal.	**8,035,779**	**9,085,307**	**7,790,451**	**8,541,078**	**9,003,274**
Value £ ...	**233,813**	**305,620**	**426,073**	**423,175**	**436,812**
Cotton—					
lb.	**8,858**	**25,426**	**336,899**	**21,561**	**69,605**
Value £ ...	**728**	**3,029**	**21,056**	**963**	**3,149**
Rum—					
Gal.	**46,130**	**65,390**	**56,683**	**47,137**	**41,926**
Value £ ...	**4,517**	**6,402**	**5,314**	**4,517**	**4,018**

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 205,090 gallons.

The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows :—

	£
Bay Rum	506
Biscuits	5,394
Cotton Seed Meal	250
Fruit (tamarind)	1,926
Hides and Skins	2,720
Lime, "Building"	6,306
Manjak	480
Oils (edible)	704
Vegetables, fresh	4,202

The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years :—

	1929.	*1930.*	*1931.*	*1932.*	*1933.*
	£	**£**	**£**	**£**	**£**
United Kingdom	**78,381**	**39,000**	**43,183**	**324,807**	**442,309**
Canada	**799,230**	**657,343**	**619,359**	**707,533**	**702,916**
Other parts of the British Empire	**64,401**	**64,150**	**67,116**	**73,951**	**71,580**
United States of America ...	**58,221**	**68,680**	**113,680**	**82,260**	**37,000**
Other foreign countries	**11,455**	**8,050**	**8,403**	**6,717**	**3,712**
Stores (ships)	**479**	**371**	**347**	**440**	**676**
	1,012,167	**837,594**	**852,088**	**1,195,708**	**1,258,193**

The percentage of increases and decreases of the exports to the above places as compared with 1932 are :—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	7·9	—
Canada	—	3·3
Other parts of the British Empire ...	—	·5
United States of America	—	4·0
Other foreign countries	—	·2

Canada remains the largest purchaser of the principal domestic products of the Island and though yielding premier position to the United Kingdom in-so-far as the imports of sugar are concerned continues to be the outlet for the bulk of the Island's molasses.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages.

The average rates of wages paid to estate labourers are :—Men, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per day; women, 10d. to 1s. 3d. per day; children, 6d. to 8d. per day. These labourers generally live in houses which they own, but on land belonging to the estates. In the purchase and repair of their houses they receive assistance from their employers who deduct the amounts advanced in instalments from their wages. They pay a small weekly rent for the plots on which their houses are situated.

The activities of the port of Bridgetown furnish employment for a large number of casual labourers. The average wages are as follows :—a lighter crew of four men receive from $4.15 to $6.35 per trip according to the size of the lighter, when handling general cargo, and from $5.40 to $7.15 per trip when handling a cargo of coal. Overtime rates are double the ordinary rates. Ships' labourers are paid $1.50 each per day for general cargo and from $1.50 to $2.40 per day for a cargo of coal, according to the nature of the duties, e.g. guymen are paid $1.50 per day and spaders $2.40. Overtime is at the rate of 18 cents per hour. In steamers' warehouses permanent labourers are paid from $5.00 to $6.00 per week, casual labourers $1.20 per day. They receive overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour. Boatmen engaged in attending on the loading or discharging of steamers are paid at the rate of $1.00 per day with overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour.

The wages of artisans are as follows.—carpenters, masons and mechanics : foremen from 3s. 9d. to 5s. per day, others from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per day.

Domestic servants in the employ of persons of the upper class are paid wages at the following rates per week :—

Butler	10s. to 15s.
Housemaid	6s. to 8s.
Nurse	6s. to 10s.
Cook	10s. to 12s. 6d.
Chauffeur	20s. to 30s.
Gardener	8s. to 10s.

In the homes of the respectable middle class, domestic servants are paid at an average of 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. per month with or without food as the case may be.

Fishermen are recruited from the agricultural class. Some fishermen own their boats, while others use the boats of private owners and are given a percentage of the catch.

In the Government clerical service salaries range from £50 per annum for junior cadets to £400 for Chief Clerks. Heads of Departments, Magistrates and Judges receive salaries varying from £500 to £700, while higher legal and other posts are paid at the rate of £1,000 to £1,200.

Police Constables are paid from £70 for Third-Class Constables to £135 for Sergeants; Prison Warders from £75 to £200, and Matrons from £60 to £150; Attendants at the Government Industrial Schools, Mental Hospital and Leper Asylum from £50 to £100 for males and from £35 to £70 for females; Postmen from £30 to £50 per annum.

In the Public Works Department the following scales of wages are paid :—

I. General Works :—Artisans, 3s. to 4s. 2d. per day; Labourers, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per day.

II. Waterworks :—Plumbers, 18s. to 35s. per week; Jointers, 15s. per week; Tap repairers, 10s. to 17s. per week; District Foremen, 16s. 8d. to £1 5s. per week; Engine Drivers, 3s. 6d. to 5s. per day; Firemen, 2s. 6d. per day; Labourers, men, 1s. 9d. to 2s. per day; women, 1s. per day.

Railway employees are paid as follows :—Locomotive Drivers, £1 15s. per week; Firemen 18s. per week; Cleaners, £1 per week; Artisans, 3s. to 4s. 2d. per day; Guards, £1 10s. per week; Platelayers, etc., 1s. to 2s. 4d. per day; Porters, Messengers, etc., 6s. to 16s. 3d. per week.

Cost of Living.

The ordinary prices of necessary commodities are as follows:—

Cornmeal	1½d. per lb.
Sugar (white)	2d. per lb.
Firewood	1s. 8d. per 100 lb.
Milk (condensed)	5d. to 6d. per tin.
Rice	1½d. per lb.
Beef (salt)	6d. per lb.
Pork (salt)	8d. per lb.
Pork (fresh)	7d. per lb.
Beef (fresh)	7d. per lb.
Mutton (fresh)	1s. per lb.
Milk (fresh)	2d. to 2½d. per pint.
Flour	1½d. per lb.
Salmon	7d. to 1s. 8d. per tin.
Fish	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Grain (whole peas)	2d. per pint.
Grain (split peas)	2d. per pint.
Tea	3s. to 3s. 4d. per lb.
Margarine	1s. per lb.
Coffee	1s. 8d. per lb.
Kerosene oil	2d. per pint.
Soap (household)	7d. per bar.
Cocoa	8d. per lb.
Bread (white)	4d. per lb.
Butter (fresh)	1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb.
Cheese	1s. 6d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 3d. per dozen.

In the case of Government officials, quarters, partly furnished, are provided for the Colonial Secretary (on payment of rent), and unfurnished quarters (free of rent) for the Director of Agriculture, the Inspector General of Police, and a few other officials. Head teachers at the principal schools are provided with quarters and, in some instances, unmarried teachers are also provided with quarters. The cost of accommodation including meals at the two principal hotels is from 12s. 6d. a day upwards. Private board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £12 per month. Laundry charges in the case of an unmarried officer amount to about £1 10s. a month, and transport to about £5 a month. These figures apply in the case of an officer appointed from abroad; local officers can, of course, live more cheaply. Unfurnished or furnished houses in residential districts are obtained only with difficulty; the normal rent in the case of the former is about £100 a year and in the case of the latter about £150 a year.

The cost of living for the labouring classes is moderate. The price of clothing has decreased considerably during recent years. The staple diet of the labourers is rice; flour; sugar; cornmeal; local root crops such as sweet potatoes, yams, casava, and eddoes; fresh and salt fish; pickled pork; beef; margarine; cotton-seed oil; milk; eggs; vegetables; and fruit.

The following comparison between the staple foodstuffs of the average labourer and his wages is recorded:—

1 lb. Flour = 1½d. ... 2s. per day = 16 lb.
1 lb. Rice = 1½d. ... 2s. per day = 16 lb.
1 lb. Cornmeal = 1½d. ... 2s. per day = 16 lb.
1 lb. Fresh beef = 7d. ... 2s. per day = $3\frac{3}{7}$ lb.
1 lb. Bread = 4d. ... 2s. per day = 6 lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

The schools of the Island, though largely assisted and, in the case of elementary schools, entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 128 in 1933; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English universities. The Cambridge Junior Local or the Lower Certificate of the Oxford and Cambridge Joint Board is also taken by pupils of both second- and first-grade schools.

In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1933 was 24,101 and the average attendance 16,986 an increase of 157 and 365 respectively as compared with the figures for 1932.

To the number of second-grade schools no additions have been made during the year. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1933 was 413 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 188.

The three first-grade schools are Harrison College and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendance at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1933 was 268 and 168 respectively. The Lodge School, in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 112, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. At this school attends a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from fifteen to twenty. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. Most of the College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but they have been restored and were re-opened in June, 1931. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

The total grant for education purposes, exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls, in 1933 was £51,454, of which £1,284 was the cost of office staff, etc., £9,410 grants to first- and second-grade schools, £937 for university education, and £39,063 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses.

School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in eight schools, while twenty-five schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work, and brush-making. A cooking class has been started at two girls' schools, as well as a class for the instruction of teachers in domestic science.

Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (No. 31), thirteen apprentices completed their apprenticeship period of five years and the Education Board have issued to them certificates of competence as journeymen tradesmen. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is left entirely to the assistance of men engaged in work themselves and is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc., during working hours. Masters and apprentices are paid allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. 0d. a year from public funds.

The Colony was visited in January, 1932, by a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to report on and submit recommendations for the improvement of the educational system. The Commission's Report was published simultaneously in the British West Indies on the 19th of April, 1933, and the recommendations of the Education Board in connexion therewith are under the consideration of the Government.

The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 118 teachers, 67 male and 51 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 90 (46 male and 44 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant of £600 from the Government. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education. There is at present no provision for the medical and dental inspection of school children.

There are 73 boys and 17 girls at the Industrial Schools. The Regular elementary school curriculum is adhered to and, in addition, boys are instructed in carpentry, masonry, tailoring, horticulture, the care of animals, and general agriculture, and the girls are taught sewing, laundry work, cooking, simple gardening, and fancy needlework (optional). There is also a drum and fife band at the boys' school. The usual school games are encouraged. Generally speaking, the boys and girls enjoy excellent health. The staffs of the schools are responsible for the after-care of discharged boys and girls.

As regards provision for the public welfare, it is the special duty of the Parish Vestries to provide for the aged, sick and poor. All the almshouses are maintained to the standard of cottage hospitals.

There is in existence a Women's Social Welfare League which continues to do good work in the Colony. The Baby Welfare League and the Family Welfare League are subsidiary organizations of the first-named League. The Girls' Industrial Union provides useful training for its members in the following crafts :—cookery, sewing, basket-making, fancy-work, as well as the arts—music, drawing and painting.

There are well organized branches of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Girls' Friendly Society. The Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides organizations play an important part in the life of the youth of the Colony.

There were 207 Friendly Societies on the Register on the 31st of December, 1933. These Societies provide their members with a Christmas bonus, relief in sickness, and assist in the payment of the funeral expenses of members and their dependents. The number of members in all Societies at the 30th of June, 1933, was 41,376; the number of dependents of the above members was

96,814; the total contributions paid by members for the year ended the 31st December, 1933, was £53,840.

The principal outdoor games are cricket, football and tennis. Hockey is played at one or two schools and there is an up-to-date golf club. There is also a chess club.

Ample facilities for sea-bathing exist along the southern and western coasts of the Island as well as on isolated spots along the eastern and northern coasts. There are two aquatic clubs and a Royal yacht club.

The Barbados Rifle Association composed of military and civilian members is allowed to use the Government rifle range (up to 600 yards), and encourages rifle shooting under Bisley and Service conditions. Visiting inter-colonial rifle shooting competitions with Trinidad and British Guiana are also carried out annually.

There are three cinematograph theatres. The "Empire Players" gave dramatic performances at the Empire Theatre during a short season from 10th to 24th March. Variety entertainments were given by the concert parties of His Majesty's Ships calling at Bridgetown.

A Naval Welfare League is also carried on under the auspices of the Women's Social Welfare League. The Naval Welfare League was formed to entertain the warrant officers, petty officers and men of warships visiting this Island, and fulfils a very useful purpose.

There is a Carnegie Free Library, which is supported from public funds. To this is attached a lecture hall which is occasionally used for musical recitals. Within recent years a juvenile branch has been established at the Public Library and the original building is now proving inadequate for its various functions. The Barbados Literary Society and the Forum Club are doing useful work.

The Barbados Choral Society gave their usual programme of Christmas music at the Cathedral, and organ recitals were given during the year. The Police band also rendered its usual programmes at the Hastings Rocks, Queen's Park, the Bay Street Esplanade and the Garrison Savannah.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The Island has a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of eleven Boards of Highways Commissioners.

As stated elsewhere in this Report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 280 miles of main roads and approximately 190 miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use. It must be borne in mind that with a population of over 1,000 to the square mile, the problem of maintaining communications has to be approached rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

Up to ten or fifteen years ago—before the advent of self-propelled vehicles—Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficiency of funds, led to their rapid deterioration.

The first definite step towards improving and preserving them was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power, under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct, the arterial roads radiating from Bridgetown. It was estimated that the roads classified as arterial roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile, and that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the city of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the Parish of Saint Michael was transferred to the Central Road Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926-27, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1933-34, the sum of £184,325 has been spent on 97 miles of seven arterial roads plus £91,970 from Government grants and parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's parish.

Railways.

A light railway, twenty-four miles long, runs through the southern parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £10,500. The actual expenditure, including extraordinary outlay, was £11,050, and the actual revenue £7,320.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years:—

	1933.	1932.	1931.
Passengers	58,982	69,393	58,877
Live Stock	93	120	139
	Tons.	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
Goods:—			
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses	16,468	17,385	7,515
Canes	11,061	10,478	4,060
Fuel	65	213	87
Sundries	7,098	3,560	4,932
	34,692	31,636	16,594

Omnibuses.

Owing to the configuration of the land and the improved condition of the roads, practically the whole of the Island is accessible to motor vehicles. The city of Bridgetown and its suburbs are supplied with a well-equipped motor omnibus service which is run by the General Motor Omnibus Company, a company whose advent was responsible for the closing down of the Bridgetown Tramways Company a few years ago. Omnibuses leave the terminus in Trafalgar Square every quarter of an hour for the seaside districts of Hastings, Rockley, Saint Lawrence and Fontabelle, as well as the popular inland residential districts. There is a regular daily service from the country districts in the mornings and back in the evenings.

Fares are down to the very low level of 1½d. per section, which in some cases extends over two miles.

Posts.

There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies, and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines :—

Between Europe and West Indies :—

Royal Netherlands Line.
Elders and Fyffes Line.
Harrison Line.
Leyland Line.
Hamburg-Amerika Line.
Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.

Between Canada, Boston and British West Indian Colonies :—

Canadian National Steamship Company.

Between the United States of America, West Indies, Central and South America :—

Aluminum Line.
Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company.
Booth Line.
Ocean Dominion Line.
Dawnic Steamship Company.
Lamport and Holt Line.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below :—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*		*H.M. Ships.*	
	1932.	*1933.*	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1932.*	*1933*
Mails for Barbados ...	529	574	6	5	33	6
Mails from Barbados ...	493	538	53	48	—	—

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic communication is provided by Cable and Wireless Limited (formerly Imperial and International Communications, Limited) and the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Telephones.

The Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, controls the telephone system in the Colony with the exception of a private branch exchange attached to the Police Department. The system extends throughout the Island, the total wire mileage being 5,496.

Wireless Telegraphy.

Wireless communication is maintained by the station of Cable and Wireless Limited at Bridgetown.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,112, with a net tonnage of 2,185,711, as compared with 1,089 vessels with a tonnage of 2,069,255 during the previous year. In addition five ships of war, seven yachts, and one training ship visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 472, while 450 were discharged. The estimated amount of money earned during the year as wages by seamen belonging to, and engaging in, the Colony for service on ships was £6,300 as compared with £17,151 for the previous year.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are the Harrison and the Leyland Lines from Liverpool direct, and the Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from London fortnightly.

The Fyffes Line (Elders and Fyffes, Limited) make fortnightly sailings from Avonmouth calling at Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Cristobal, Port Limon, Jamaica, thence to Avonmouth. This company also carries out a fortnightly service to the West Indies sailing from Avonmouth thence to Jamaica, Santa Marta, La Guaira, Trinidad, Barbados, thence to Avonmouth. The duration of the voyage Avonmouth-Barbados is thirteen days and from Barbados-Avonmouth eleven days.

The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) runs a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados and Central American ports, calling at Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth on the return.

The Hamburg-Amerika Line operates a monthly service sailing from Hamburg via Antwerp, Southampton, Cherbourg, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Curacao, Puerto Colombia, Cartagena, Cristobal to Port Limon. On the return journey these vessels call at Plymouth and Amsterdam instead of at Southampton and Antwerp.

The Compagnie Generale Transatlantique provides a monthly service from Havre via Plymouth, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Barbados, Trinidad, the Spanish Main and return. This company also furnishes an inter-colonial service from Martinique, calling at Barbados, Trinidad, the Guianas and return.

The Canadian National Steamship Company operates a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados. The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provides a fortnightly freight service between Halifax and Barbados. An irregular service is provided by freighters of the Canadian Transport Company; these vessels sail from Vancouver, B.C.

The McCormick Steamship Corporation operate a monthly freight and passenger service, sailing from British Columbia, San Francisco, via the Panama Canal to Porto Rico, thence to Barbados, Trinidad and South American ports.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy), the Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Ocean Service), and the Dawnic Steamship Corporation. Ships of the Aluminum Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados *en route* to British and Dutch Guiana.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Three private banks are operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of the first-named bank is £4,975,500, while in the case of the other banks the figures are $35,000,000 and $30,000,000 respectively.

The Government Savings Bank.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which at the end of the year under review, there were 11,917 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £657,600. The value of the invested funds was £796,641. The figures for 1932 were, deposits

£596,225, invested funds £689,246, and number of depositors 11,212. The number of depositors shows an increase of 705, and the total amount to their credit an increase of £61,375.

The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows:—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman *ex officio*, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1933, after paying income-tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan, and salaries, etc., amounted to £7,169 5s. 5½d.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1933, was £217,193 as compared with £210,024 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £2,952, as compared with £2,897 for the previous year.

Loan and interest due thereon are a first lien and charge against the plantation in respect of which the loan is made.

Currency.

No changes have occurred in currency during the year. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The banks issue five-dollar notes equivalent to £1 0s. 10d., the exchange value being fixed at $4.80 to the pound sterling.

Weights and Measures.

British imperial standard weights and measures are everywhere employed.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for waterworks and for all Government constructional work and the upkeep of all Government buildings, including the military properties in the Garrison, bridges, wharves and lighthouses.

The roads and railways are each under separate control and are worked apart from the Public Works Department.

Works of importance in process of being carried out by the Department during the year were :—

(1) The building of an engine and boiler house and installation of a pumping plant at Bowmanston Pumping Station, the estimated cost of which is £30,000. This work will be completed during the following year.

(2) Work on the improvement of the Public Market, the estimated cost of which is £16,300, has been commenced. This work will be completed during the following year.

(3) A grant was received from the Colonial Development Fund for the establishment of a central venereal diseases clinic, the erection of a building for which was completed in the year 1933-34.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE, AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Superior Courts of the Island are presided over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction (not exceeding £50 at Common Law and £500 in Equity) is vested in two Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal. These Judges are also Judges of the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown. There are six Police Magistrates, four of whom in rural districts are also Judges of the Petty Debt Courts of those districts. From the decisions and judgments of Police Magistrates and Judges of Petty Debt Courts there is a right of appeal to the Assistant Court of Appeal, the Registrar of the Island sitting with a Judge of that Court to hear appeals from the other Judge in his capacity as Judge of the Petty Debt Court at Bridgetown.

The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £12,920.

Under the authority of Act No. 6 of 1929, Police Magistrates are authorized to allow time for the payment of fines or to allow payment of fines by instalments. Except in special cases, as, for instance, those against in-transit seamen, the general practice is to allow time for the payment of fines.

Police.

The Police Force is composed of an Inspector-General, a Deputy Inspector-General, a Senior and a Junior Inspector, and 408 non-commissioned officers and men. Of these, forty-four, including four supernumeraries, are attached to the Harbour Police and perform regular harbour duties.

An efficient band is attached to the Force.

The Inspector-General is also Commandant of the Local Forces and is charged also with the control of the Fire Brigade consisting of twenty-five men.

Prisons.

Glendairy Prison, in the Parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony and has accommodation for 275 males and 128 females. Instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, baking and other crafts. The estimated value of work done in the carpenter's shop during 1933 for Government Departments was £135 0s. 0d. The bakery supplied approximately 30½ tons of bread to the Mental and Leper Hospitals during the same period. Clothes-washing and cooking are done by the female prisoners.

Juvenile adult prisoners are segregated as far as possible from adults and are instructed in one of the above-named trades.

The Medical Officer attends the prison daily, examining and prescribing for the sick when necessary; his orders are carefully carried out by male and female hospital attendants on the staff. The health of all the prisoners during 1933 was good.

The Juvenile Offenders Act, 1932 (No. 22), which became operative on 1st September, 1932, provides for the operation of Juvenile Courts.

The following is a comparative statement for the last three years:—

	1931.	1932.	1933.
Total number of persons committed to prison	**1,490**	**1,174**	**956**
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	**36**	**29**	**24**
Daily average in prison (males)	**171**	**149**	**133**
Daily average in prison (females)	**35**	**31**	**28**
Police Court convictions	**10,344**	**9,975**	**9,411**
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	**422**	**250**	**224**
Convictions by Superior Court	**58**	**51**	**54**

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts.

The Legislative Session 1933-34 opened on the 1st of August, 1933, the previous Session having ended on the 30th of May, 1933. The following is a list of the most important Acts passed during the period 1st April, 1933, to 31st March, 1934.

1933.

No. 10. Reduces the rates of Customs duty on boots, shoes and slippers.

No. 15. Removes the prohibition with regard to the keeping of swine in any of the towns of the Island which had been imposed by Section 46 of the Public Health Act, 1908, as far as Speightstown and Holetown, two towns of the Island, are concerned. Similar legislation in favour of Bridgetown, the capital of the Island, had previously been enacted.

No. 17. Enlarges the powers of the Westbury Cemetery Board, a subsidiary board of the Vestry of one of the parishes of the Island, in regard to the appointment and dismissal of a chaplain and authorizes the granting of leave of absence to any of its Members.

No. 23. Exempts conditionally from the operation of the Public Health (Amendment)Act, 1928 (No. 2), which imposed restrictions on the selling and letting of land, all land used solely for purposes of agriculture.

No. 25. Declares the terms and conditions applicable to local loans authorized to be raised by the Government of the Island.

No. 26. Authorizes the raising of a loan not exceeding £117,000 to redeem certain outstanding loans.

No. 27. Consolidates and amends the Law relating to locomotives on highways.

No. 28. Sets aside a part of the salary of the Governor of the Island as duty allowance, payable to the Governor or to the officer for the time being administering the Government.

No. 33. Authorizes the sale on bank holidays of volatile petroleum and lubricating oil for use in motor vehicles.

No. 34. Conditionally exempts from the provisions of the Shops (closing) Act, 1908, places of business for the sale of volatile and lubricating oil for use in motor vehicles.

No. 37. Legalises certain pensions paid in error to certain former employees of the Waterworks Department.

No. 43. Applies the provisions of the Vagrancy Act, 1897, to the Pier Head, a Public Wharf which is vested in the Executive Committee in trust for the public of the Island by the Executive Committee Act, 1891.

1934.

No. 1. Defines the term " British Empire " used in Acts imposing Customs duty.

No. 2. Provides for the constitution of the Assistant Court of Appeal of the Island for the purpose of determining appeals from the decisions of the Registrar of the Island when that Officer has been appointed to act as a judge of the Assistant Court of Appeal (and is consequently *ex officio* a judge of the Bridgetown Petty Debt Court) and has reverted to his substantive office. The Principal Act had provided that appeals from the decisions of a judge of the Bridgetown Petty Debt Court should be heard by the other judge of the Court and the Registrar.

No. 4. Gives power of arrest in cases of offences, etc., committed in Queen's Park. Formerly the only method of procedure was by way of summons before the Courts of summary jurisdiction.

No. 6. Applies certain of the provisions of the Weights and Measures Act, 1891, in regard to the testing and inspection of weights and measures, to all weighing and measuring instruments.

Subsidiary Legislation.

Of the subsidiary legislation passed during the year, the following is considered to be of importance :—

Proclamation appointing a day of supplication to Almighty God for deliverence from storm and other calamities.

Order removing the restrictions against the importation of fresh fruit from New Zealand.

Rules and Regulations :—

1. The Juveniles Offenders Rules, 1933.
2. Rules relative to the granting of patents for inventions made by Civil Servants.
3. The Travelling Allowance Regulations, 1933.
4. Issue of Postage Due Labels.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1929-30	453,802	450,696
1930-31	404,555	429,143
1931-32	415,645	424,088
1932-33	457,843	425,875
1933-34	510,270	490,909

Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve fund set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1934, was £52,427.

Special Funds.

	£	s.	d.
Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...	65,381	9	11
Water Boat Renewal Fund	14,162	5	7
Red Cross Fund	2,104	1	3
Public Officers Security Fund	11,377	15	4½
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	33,636	10	3
Reparation Payments Fund	4,493	14	2
	£231,155	16	6½

Revenue.

The revenue for 1933-34 shows an increase of £52,427 over that of the previous year, the principal head showing an increase being "Customs" £24,306. The increase under all heads was £67,733 while the decreases totalled £15,306. The decreases are due generally to fluctuations in business.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1933-34 was £490,909, an increase of £65,034 as compared with the previous year. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads "Police", "Education", "Medical", "Public Works" and "Charges of Debt". The expenditure under these heads was as follows :—

		Compared with 1932-33.	
	£		£
Police	44,126	a decrease of	479
Education	50,671	an increase of	638
Medical	42,618	an increase of	903
Public Works	65,311	an increase of	13,025
Charges of Debt ...	79,205	an increase of	48,2[illegible]
	£281,931		

The total expenditure on these five Departments, £281,931, represents 60 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

Special expenditure on restoration of roads amounted to £22,019. The question as to the proportion of road charges involved in the work of reconstruction now being carried out which may properly be allocated to loan funds had not been finally decided at the end of the year.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the 31st of March, 1934, was £267,920, the Sinking Fund on that date being £41,379, as compared with £649,000 and £370,671 respectively in 1933. The loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1934, were as follows :—

Name of Loan.	Amount of Loan.			Amount outstanding.			Sinking Fund.			Date Redeemable.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	11,524	9	4	£11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000	0	0	90,000	0	0	3,146	8	2	£25,000 October, 1975. £65,000 7th October, 1978.
General Local Loan Act, 1933 (No. 25) and Redemption Acts, 1933 (Nos. 26 and 46)	140,920	0	0	140,920	0	0	26,708	13	6	2nd January, 1963.
	£267,920	0	0	£267,920	0	0	£41,379	11	0	

The revenue derived from the main heads of taxation during the year was as follows :—Customs, £245,023 ; Excise Duty on Rum and Distillers' Licences, £60,174 ; and Income Tax, £35,896. The Stamp Act, 1916-17, and the amendments thereto impose duties for the use of the Island upon the several instruments specified in the Schedules to the said Act. Revenue derived from this source during the year was :—embossing cheques, £749 ; licences on note issue of banks, £225 ; and sale of stamps for revenue purposes under the Stamp Act, £3,021.

Customs Tariff (summarized).—The Customs Tariff Act at present in force is Act No. 20 of the year 1921 as amended by Act No. 25 of the year 1926 which substituted a new tariff of duties. Further amendments were effected by Act No. 10 of 1927, Act No. 10 of 1930, Act No. 35 of 1932, Act No. 10 of 1933 and Act No. 1 of 1934.

These Acts provide for preferential and general rates of duty, the former rates applying to all articles of British Empire origin, the latter to goods from foreign sources.

The revenue derived from specific duties is approximately twice that received from *ad valorem* duties, high rates of specific duties being imposed on luxury articles such as spirits, wines and tobacco while *ad valorem* duties are generally fixed at 10 per cent. preferential and 20 per cent. general rate, the general being usually twice the preferential rate.

In addition to the duties levied under the Acts mentioned above there is a 10 per cent. surtax imposed by Act No. 16 of 1929.

There are no export duties.

Agricultural implements and machinery for the manufacture of sugar and its products, including rum, and for other local manufactures are on the list of goods exempted from payment of duty.

There is no hut or poll tax in force in the Colony.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

His Excellency Mark Aitchison Young, C.M.G., arrived in the Colony on the 5th of August, 1933, and assumed the administration of the Government.

The following ships of His Majesty's Home Fleet visited the Colony during the spring of 1934 :—

H.M.S. *Nelson* flying the flag of Admiral Sir W. H. D. Boyle, K.C.B., Commander-in-Chief of the Home Fleet.

H.M.S. *Rodney*.

H.M.S. *Malaya* flying the flag of Rear Admiral Max. K. Horton, D.S.O., Rear Admiral, Second Battle Squadron.

H.M.S. *Valiant*.

H.M.S. *Leander* flying the flag of Rear Admiral P. L. H. Noble, C.B., C.V.O., Rear Admiral Commanding, Second Cruiser Squadron.

H.M.S. *Achilles*.

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BARBADOS, 1935-36

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BARBADOS FOR 1935-36

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population at the end of 1935 of 184,912. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629 in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring

Colonies, while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers, find it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his " Historical Geography of the British Colonies " has this to say about Barbados :—

> " Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics. . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

Unlike most of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Barbados possesses a representative Legislature but not full responsible government. The Crown retains only the right of veto on legislation, but the Home Government retains the appointment and control of the public officers, except the Colonial Treasurer who is nominated annually by the House of Assembly and his appointment confirmed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the King, and a House of Assembly of 24 members, elected annually on the basis of a moderate franchise.

The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

For electoral purposes the Island is divided into 12 constituencies, viz., the city of Bridgetown, and the 11 parishes of Saint Michael, Saint George, Christ Church, Saint Philip, Saint John, Saint Joseph, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint James, Saint Peter and Saint Lucy, each of which returns two members to the General Assembly. The qualifications of members and electors are regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2).

Qualification of members is set out in section 2 of this Act and is briefly as follows :—

(1) Ownership of 30 acres of land, with a dwelling-house of the value of not less than £300.

(2) Ownership of any real property of the absolute value of £1,500.

(3) Beneficial interest in a property the rental value of which is not less than £120 per annum.

(4) Receipt either personally or by one's wife of an annual income of not less than £200.

Qualification of voters is set out in section 3 of the Act and is, briefly, as follows :—

(1) Possession of land or freehold property of the annual value of not less than £5 or receipt of rents and profits in respect of such property for at least 12 months prior to claim to be registered.

(2) Possession of land, house or place of business parochially assessed at £15 per annum.

(3) Payment of taxes of not less than £2 per annum in respect of Bridgetown, and of not less than £1 per annum in respect of the Parochial Constituencies.

(4) Receipt of salary or income of not less than £50 per annum.

(5) Recognition as a barrister, solicitor, physician or surgeon ; or the holding of a degree of any university of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or a testamur from Codrington College.

(6) Occupation of a house rated at not less than £50 per annum and payment of rent of not less than £15 per annum.

The Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9), regulates the procedure at elections of members to serve in the General Assembly and in the several Vestries of the Island.

The total number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls at the present time is 5,721 and is made up as follows :—

Bridgetown, 894 ; Saint Michael, 1,851 ; Christ Church, 839 ; Saint George, 329 ; Saint Philip, 279 ; Saint John, 118 ; Saint Joseph, 205 ; Saint Andrew, 232 ; Saint Peter, 224 ; Saint Lucy, 261 ; Saint James, 205 ; Saint Thomas, 284.

The total at the time of the last election—December, 1935—was 5,564. It is now over the number included in 1931 which was 5,155. A portion of this increase is due to the inclusion of the police in the electoral rolls.

The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 6·8 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 19·6 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last (1921) census returns.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Executive Council appointed by the Crown, and consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, *ex-officio*, and two other members. The Executive Committee—appointed under the provisions of the Executive Committee Act, 1891 (No. 24)—consists of the members of the Executive Council, *ex-officio*, one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly, nominated annually by the Governor. This body introduces all money votes, prepares the Estimates and initiates all Government measures.

Local government is in the hands of 11 Parish Boards or Vestries. The Vestry is elected annually under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2), and the Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9). The Rector of the parish is *ex officio* Chairman of the Vestry. The functions of the Vestry include the appointment of Guardians for the care of the sick and poor, of Commissioners of Health for the control of sanitation, and of Highways Commissioners for the upkeep of roads. To provide funds for these purposes the Vestries levy rates on lands and houses, and taxes on trade, vehicles, draught animals, etc.

III.—POPULATION.

The population on the 31st of December 1935, was estimated to be 184,912, 83,078 being males and 101,834 females. The increase over the estimated total for 1934 is 2,472 or 1·4 per cent., and is made up as follows:—

Natural increase, births exceeding deaths by ...	1,613
and immigration exceeding emigration by ...	859
	2,472

Estimates of population so calculated have usually been found to be exaggerated when a census is taken.

Based on the returns given in the last census (1921) the population is made up as follows:—

	Per cent.
White	7
Black	71
Mixed	22

The last census was taken in 1921; therefore the figures given in the last paragraph, as well as this, are only approximations. The tendency for large numbers of the urban population to drift into the metropolitan parish of Saint Michael is very pronounced, and has been much encouraged during the last two decades by the indiscriminate dividing and selling or letting of land lots which was not controlled until 1928. The following shows, with as reasonable a degree of accuracy as is expected in such approximations, the estimated numbers in each parish :—

Parish.	*Estimated population.*
Saint Michael	67,000
Christ Church	24,000
Saint George	14,500
Saint Philip	15,500
Saint John	10,500
Saint James	11,000
Saint Thomas	8,000
Saint Peter	9,500
Saint Lucy	8,500
Saint Joseph	8,000
Saint Andrew	8,500

The density per square mile for the Island is 1,114.

Marriages.

There were 831 marriages performed during 1935, 615 by the Church of England, 77 by the Methodists, 23 by the Moravians, 13 by the Roman Catholics, 22 were civil, and the remainder divided among 16 other denominations.

The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 9·06.

The illiterate percentage among those married during the year is 12·7 as against 13·8 last year.

Births and Deaths.

The following are the figures for the last five years :—

Year.	*Births*			*Deaths.*		
	No.	*Rate per M.*	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Percentage uncertified.*
1931	4,853	28·06	60·46	4,488	25·95	2·0
1932	5,391	30·76	59·69	3,325	18·97	2·2
1933	5,316	29·79	59·91	3,593	20·13	2·6
1934	5,380	29·44	57·42	4,176	23·04	2·8
1935	5,315	28·94	59·00	3,702	20·16	1·2

Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality rate has decreased from 256 last year to 220.

Immigration and Emigration.

Each year of the past decade, with the exception of 1928, shows an increase of immigration over emigration. This increase in 1935 amounted to 859. The average net increase for each of the past five years was approximately 980. During 1935 there were 9,312 immigrants as compared with 8,461 emigrants.

IV.—HEALTH.

General, Principal Causes of Death, etc.

The climate is salubrious and semi-tropical. The maximum temperature varies between 82° Fahr. in the cool months and 90° Fahr. in the hot season, the minimum being between 69° Fahr. and 73° Fahr. The Island is a natural health resort.

Malaria made its appearance in the Island in October, 1927; but since the 17th October, 1929, no new case has occurred, and no anopheline mosquito larvae have been found since January, 1930.

The causes of death are classified in accordance with the Intermediate International List of Causes of Deaths as adopted for use in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, some being further sub-divided to meet local requirements.

The following are the principal diseases or groups of diseases responsible for the mortality:—

Causes.	*Total Deaths.*
Syphilis	350*
Diarrhoea and enteritis	526†
Diseases of the heart	322
Old age	174
Nephritis	270‡
Pneumonia	225
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	264
Diseases of arteries and veins	122
Congenital debility	175‡
Cancer	139
Other diseases of early infancy	124
Tuberculosis	89
Bronchitis	90
Pellagra	109‡

* Of these 269 were under the age of 5 years.
† „ „ 461 „ „ „ 5 „
‡ Possibly related to diet deficiencies.

Treatment of the Sick, Medical Assistance, etc.

The General Hospital with an X-ray department is maintained by the Government and controlled by a Board of Directors. The surgical wards are excellently equipped and work of a very high order is done. Patients from any parish, sent in accordance with very liberal rules, are received and treated free. There are also pay wards of two grades attached. The resident staff consists of three surgeons, a matron, an assistant matron, a tutor sister, a theatre sister, a pay ward sister and 74 local nurses. The visiting staff consists of three visiting surgeons, three assistant visiting surgeons, one ophthalmic surgeon, one assistant ophthalmic surgeon, one dental surgeon, one radiologist and a masseuse.

The Government also maintains a well organized Mental Hospital and a Leper Hospital. Treatment on recognized up-to-date lines is carried out at both institutions. Persons who were inmates of the Leper Hospital and have been discharged as cured are assisted from Government funds if found to be in need.

Each parish maintains an almshouse. These 11 almshouses, besides being places of refuge for the destitute poor, are in most, if not all, instances practically cottage hospitals. Isolation hospitals are also provided by each parish and would be available in time of epidemic disease.

In each parish there is a parochial medical officer (in Saint Michael, two) whose duty it is to attend the sick poor, either in their homes or at the almshouse, free or at reduced fees. Dispensaries for the cheap supply of medicine are maintained in seven of the 11 parishes; in the other four the parochial medical officer or a local druggist is paid to supply medicine free.

A baby welfare clinic is conducted voluntarily by a committee of ladies, assisted by a medical practitioner, and does very good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds. The Government and Vestry of Saint Michael each grant the organization £150 per annum. Any expenditure beyond this has to be made up from donations and subscriptions by private individuals, etc. The number of " new " babies entered for treatment was 438, and 1,300 pints of milk and 1,250 lb. of barley were distributed free.

During 1935 a new building was erected on the ground very kindly given by Mr. George Browne, C.M.G., in memory of his mother, first President of the League, who for several years most generously placed her house at their disposal. The building was opened early in 1936.

Venereal disease clinics have been established at the General Hospital by the Government, and by the parochial authorities, with certain assistance from the Government clinic, in Saint George, Saint John, Saint James, Saint Thomas, Saint Peter, Saint Lucy, Saint Joseph and Saint Andrew.

The names of 395 persons appeared on the Roll and Register kept under the Midwives and Nurses Registration Act, 89 as midwives and nurses, 227 as midwives only, and 79 as nurses only.

The Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory has been re-equipped and re-arranged from funds placed at the disposal of the Governor of Barbados in 1919 by the British Red Cross Society for use on medical or relief work. This laboratory is maintained by the Government and is efficient and well-equipped, and it should now be possible to increase the amount of bacteriological enquiry into public health problems, a sphere of work much neglected in the past.

When a sanitation officer is appointed it will be possible to obtain the full benefit from this laboratory.

There is no systematic inspection of school children. This is one of the desirable measures which it may be possible to initiate when a sanitation officer is appointed.

Organization.

The organization for public health work consists of a Chief Medical Officer, the General Board of Health, and eleven Boards of Commissioners of Health (one for each parish). The Boards are appointed annually. The Port Health Officer and his assistant are responsible for all quarantine measures.

The General Board of Health employs six inspectors for general work throughout the Island, and the Boards of Commissioners of Health employ 75, of whom 26 are in the parish of Saint Michael and 15 in Christ Church.

Public health measures are carried out by 11 independent Boards of Commissioners of Health, none of which has an expert adviser equivalent to a Medical Officer of Health. Their activities can be co-ordinated by the General Board of Health to a minimal extent, and that only by invitation.

Barbados is a party to the West Indian Inter-colonial Sanitary Convention which regulates quarantine procedure among the British West Indies, excluding Jamaica and British Guiana. Some of these colonies also adhere to the International Sanitary Convention (Paris), but although recommended as advisable by the Quarantine Board and the Quarantine Officers, Barbados cannot adhere as the port of Bridgetown has not the necessary organization or equipment.

At the examinations of the British West Indian Centre of the Royal Sanitary Institute held in British Guiana in 1935, one of the 15 men in Barbados who are qualified to hold the post of Sanitary Inspector sat for and obtained the Certificate in "Tropical Hygiene for Sanitary Inspectors."

Drainage Works, etc.

There are very few swampy places in Barbados, and it has not been necessary for the Government or parishes to undertake drainage works.

V.—HOUSING.

Wage-earners.

The general standard of sanitary arrangements of the cottages of the wage-earning population and peasant proprietors is very low. These cottages, which are almost invariably constructed of wood with shingled roofs, are small, and generally much overcrowded.

About 68 per cent. of the entire population of the Island lives in cottages of less than three rooms, the kitchen, if there is one, or other arrangements for cooking, being separate. Very few are provided with sanitary arrangements which can be considered even moderately satisfactory. The letting separately of rooms in a building is not extensively practised except in certain parts of Bridgetown. Labourers on plantations and in factories live near the estates in small detached cottages often owned by themselves but on rented land. Frequent inspections and the enforcement of the sanitary laws are the means relied on for dealing with the primitive sanitary arrangements in slum areas. About 75 per cent. of the occupants own the cottages or houses in which they live, but few own the land on which the buildings stand.

Better class of houses, etc.

The better class of house is well constructed and is usually supplied with a water-borne system of sewage disposal with which little, if any, fault can be found. These houses are also in almost every case connected with the Government waterworks system which furnishes a pure and continuous piped supply. There are 589 standposts at which good drinking water can be obtained free of charge. Except in a few localities which are difficult of access, it is rare that any dwelling is situated farther than half-a-mile from a stand-post.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

An exceptionally well-distributed rainfall between May and mid-December 1935, has resulted in a record crop of approximately 128,000 tons of sugar being reaped.

The new sugar-cane seedling B 2935 has more than justified its existence and must have added at least 20,000 tons of sugar to the crop.

The sugar industry of the Colony continues to keep its head above water. In the last five years four crops of between one hundred and one hundred and twenty-eight thousand tons have been reaped, and in the fifth the demand for fancy molasses was such that an unusually large proportion of the small crop was manufactured in that commodity, with the result that the special preference paid by the British Government was divided amongst the producers of a correspondingly low proportion of the crop produced as dark crystal sugar, so that the short crop was somewhat balanced by the greater price.

Unfortunately the demand for fancy molasses was greatly over-estimated by the merchants in Barbados during 1935, with the result that approximately 12,000 puncheons were left unsold in Barbados and it is understood that an even greater quantity remained unsold in Canada.

To avoid repetition of such an unfortunate situation, legislation has been passed which, it is anticipated, will effectively control the output of fancy molasses by transferring a sufficient part of the extra price paid for it compared with that obtained for dark crystal sugar to non-molasses producers, so that all producers of sugar-cane may receive approximately the same price for their canes.

Although the market for sea-island cotton has considerably improved, it is regretted that practically the whole island crop was destroyed towards the end of 1935 by the ravages of pink boll-worm. This is especially unfortunate as the value of cotton as an alternative for sugar in the black soils which are liable to attack by the root borer of sugar cane (*Diaprepes abbreviatus*) is too well-known to need reiteration.

As a result of recent legislation, a Peasants' Agricultural Instructor has been appointed. This, it is hoped, will mark a new era for peasant agriculture in the Colony. It has not yet been found possible to bring into effect the projected Peasants' Loan Bank.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Colony and of imports and exports for the last five years is shown in the following table :—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Exports.*	*Total trade.*
	£	£	£
1931	1,491,644	1,064,051	2,555,695
1932	1,656,876	1,379,006	3,035,882
1933	1,740,161	1,378,705	3,118,866
1934	1,914,554	1,479,277	3,393,831
1935	1,840,783	1,135,136	2,975,919

The particulars of goods imported and entered for transhipment during the last five years is shown below. Values are no longer kept, but only the number of packages.

Year.	*£*	*No. of packages.*
1931	154,608	—
1932	185,413	—
1933	—	182,007
1934	—	199,512
1935	—	230,212

Imports during 1935 as compared with 1934 show a decrease of £73,771. The principal increases of imports are seen in the following :—Sulphate of ammonia, £16,217 ; fish, dried, salted or smoked, £14,097 ; staves and shooks, £9,209 ; beef, salted, £8,066 ; pork, salted, £7,113 ; meat, canned, £6,410 ; crude oil, £8,243 ; chemical manures, other kinds (including potash), £5,147 ; copra, £4,125 ; electrical apparatus (including radios and parts), £3,586 ; rice, £3,544 ; coal, coke and patent fuel, £3,075 ; cotton seed, £3,052 ; motor car tyres, £2,782 ; fish, canned, £2,369 ; medicines and drugs, £2,291 ; iron and steel bars, hoops and rods, £2,183 ; cigars and cigarettes, £2,133. The principal decreases occurred in :—Machinery, other kinds, £49,707 ; boots, shoes and slippers, all kinds, £12,710 ; wood unmanufactured—pitch pine, £12,031 ; wood, other kinds (including Douglas Fir), £10,724 ; oil, edible, £11,552 ;

other cotton manufactures except apparel, £10,360; oilmeal and oilcake, £8,345; motor cars and trucks, £7,888; shingles, £7,782; hosiery, all kinds, £6,131; bags and sacks, empty, £4,669; wool and wool manufactures, £4,062; flour wheaten or rye, £3,827; oats, £3,128; hats and bonnets, £3,752; motor spirits, £2,923; paints and colours, £2,022; mules, £2,483.

For the five years prior to 1935 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 3,967 tons. In 1935 the number of tons taken was 15. The following figures relate to the export of coal as bunkers during the last five years :—

Year.	*Steamships.*	*Tons of Coal.*
1931	33	7,143
1932	12	1,390
1933	10	1,126
1934	16	956
1935	1	15

The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin of the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade for the last five years :—

	1931.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
United Kingdom	34·7	45·6	48·0	42·3	40·9
Canada	17·7	15·1	11·8	14·4	14·1
Other parts of the British Empire	18·2	18·1	17·5	18·0	18·9
United States of America ...	18·8	10·2	10·4	12·9	11·7
Other foreign countries ...	10·6	11·0	12·3	12·4	14·4

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1935, exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows :—

	£
United Kingdom	752,831
Canada	258,520
Other parts of the British Empire	348,029
United States of America	215,160
Other foreign countries	265,017

Total imports are classified as follows :—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	697,219
Raw materials	204,031
Manufactured articles	889,203
Animals not for food	8,183
	£1,798,636
Specie, parcel post	42,147
	£1,840,783

Imports of bullion and specie amounted to £1,226.

The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows :—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	2,548	134
Butter	363	—
Oilmeal (cattle food)	941	34,369
Cornmeal	473	9,998
Fish (salted)	10,717	—
Flour	32,583	45
Oats	18,047	—
Manures	17,583	5,848
Salt beef	3	360
Salt pork	18,421	6,909
Wood (various) (manufactured and unmanufactured)	73,548	50,236

The total value of exports was £1,135,136 of which £999,726 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £135,410 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows :—

	1931.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
Sugar—					
Tons	**34,422**	**74,710**	**78,994**	**87,459**	**39,392**
Value £ ...	**360,639**	**732,948**	**788,183**	**774,714**	**330,550**
Molasses—					
Gal.	**7,790,451**	**8,541,078**	**9,003,274**	**11,626,180**	**10,785,568**
Value £ ...	**426,073**	**423,175**	**436,812**	**536,679**	**637,096**
Cotton—					
Lb.	**336,899**	**21.561**	**69,605**	**1,670**	**41,277**
Value £ ...	**21,056**	**963**	**3,149**	**90**	**2,775**
Rum—					
Gal.	**56,683**	**47,137**	**41,926**	**58,024**	**77,892**
Value £ ...	**5,314**	**4,517**	**4,018**	**5,561**	**6,491**

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 192,878 gallons.

The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows :—

	£
Bay Rum	474
Biscuits	7,349
Cotton Seed Meal	303
Fruit (tamarind)	3,222
Hides and Skins	2,956
Lime, " Building "	3,946
Manjak	556
Vegetables, fresh	2,141

The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years :—

	1931.	*1932.*	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	**43,183**	**324,807**	**442,309**	**171,646**	**32,103**
Canada	**619,359**	**707,533**	**702,916**	**1,021,123**	**790,182**
Other parts of the British Empire	**67,116**	**73,951**	**71,580**	**76,882**	**76,533**
United States of America ...	**113,680**	**82,260**	**37,000**	**66,684**	**92,800**
Other foreign countries	**8,403**	**6,717**	**3,712**	**6,310**	**7,446**
Stores (ships)	**347**	**440**	**676**	**341**	**662**
	852,088	**1,195,708**	**1,258,193**	**1,342,986**	**999,726**

The percentage of increases and decreases of the domestic exports to the above places as compared with 1934 are :—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	—	9·6
Canada	3·0	—
Other parts of the British Empire ...	1·9	—
United States of America	4·4	—
Other foreign countries	0·2	—

Canada remains the largest purchaser of the principal domestic products of the Island, namely, sugar and molasses.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages.

The average rates of wages paid to estate labourers are :—Men, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per day ; women, 10d. to 1s. 3d. per day ; children, 6d. to 8d. per day. These labourers generally live in houses which they own, but on land belonging to the estates. In the purchase and repair of their houses they receive assistance from their employers who deduct the amounts advanced in instalments from their wages. They pay a small weekly rent for the plots on which their houses are situated.

The activities of the port of Bridgetown furnish employment for a large number of casual labourers. The average wages are as follows :—a lighter crew of four men receive from $4.15 to $6.35 per trip, according to the size of the lighter, when handling general cargo, and from $5.40 to $7.15 per trip when handling a cargo of coal. Overtime rates are double the ordinary rates. Ships' labourers are paid $1.50 each per day for general cargo and from $1.50 to $2.40 per day for a cargo of coal, according to the nature of the duties, e.g., guymen are paid $1.50 per day and spaders $2.40. Overtime is at the rate of 18 cents per hour. In steamers' warehouses permanent labourers are paid from $5.00 to $6.00 per week, casual labourers $1.20 per day. They receive overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour. Boatmen engaged in attending on the loading or discharging of steamers are paid at the rate of $1.00 per day with overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour.

The wages of artisans are as follows:—Carpenters, masons and mechanics: foremen from 3s. to 5s. per day, others from 1s. 9d. to 4s. 2d. per day.

Domestic servants in the employ of persons of the upper class are paid wages at the following rates per week:—

Butler	10s. to 15s.
Housemaid	6s. to 8s.
Nurse	6s. to 10s.
Cook	10s. to 12s. 6d.
Chauffeur	20s. to 30s.
Gardener	8s. to 10s.
Laundress	6s. to 8s.

In the homes of the respectable middle class, domestic servants are paid at an average of 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. per month with or without food as the case may be.

Fishermen are recruited from the agricultural class. Some fishermen own their boats, while others use the boats of private owners who are given a percentage of the catch.

In the Government clerical service, salaries range from £50 per annum for junior cadets to £400 for chief clerks. Heads of departments, magistrates and judges receive salaries varying from £500 to £600, while higher legal and other posts are paid at the rate of £1,000 to £1,200.

Police constables are paid from £70 for third-class constables to £135 for sergeants; prison warders from £75 to £200, and matrons from £45 to £150; attendants at the Government Industrial Schools, Mental Hospital and Leper Asylum from £40 to £100 for males and from £30 to £70 for females; postmen from £35 to £55 per annum.

In the Public Works Department the following scales of wages are paid:—

I. General Works.—Artisans, 3s. to 4s. 2d. per day; labourers, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per day.

II. Waterworks.—Plumbers, 18s. to 35s. per week; jointers, 15s. per week; tap repairers, 10s. to 17s. per week; district foremen, 16s. 8d. to £1 5s. per week; engine drivers, 3s. 6d. to 5s. per day; firemen, 2s. 6d. per day; labourers, men, 1s. 9d. to 2s. per day, women, 1s. per day.

Railway employees are paid as follows:—Locomotive drivers, £1 15s. per week; firemen, 18s. per week; cleaners, £1 per week; artisans, 3s. per day; guards, £1 10s. per week; platelayers, etc., 1s. to 2s. 4d. per day; porters, messengers, etc., 6s. to 16s. 3d. per week.

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Cost of Living.

The ordinary prices of necessary commodities are as follows :—

Cornmeal	1½d. per lb.
Sugar	1½d. per lb.
Firewood	2s. per 100 lb.
Milk (condensed)	4½d. per tin.
Milk (fresh)	2d. to 2½d. per pint.
Rice	1½d. per lb.
Beef (salt)	6d. to 7d. per lb.
Beef (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Pork (salt)	8d. per lb.
Pork (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Mutton (fresh)	1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb.
Flour	1½d. per lb.
Salmon (canned)	6d. to 1s. 3d. per lb.
Fish (salted)	4d. to 8d. per lb.
Fish (fresh)	6d. to 1s. per lb.
Grain (whole peas) ...	2d. to 3d. per pint.
Grain (split peas) ...	2d. per pint.
Tea	1s. 6d. to 3s. 4d. per lb.
Margarine	8d. per lb.
Coffee	6d. to 1s. per lb.
Kerosene oil	1½d. to 2d. per pint.
Soap (household) ...	7d. to 9d. per bar.
Cocoa	6d. to 8d. per lb.
Bread (white)	4d. per lb.
Butter (fresh)	1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb.
Cheese	1s. 6d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 3d. per dozen.

In the case of Government officials, quarters, partly furnished, are provided for the Colonial Secretary (on payment of rent), and unfurnished quarters (free of rent) for the Director of Agriculture, the Inspector-General of Police, and a few other officials. Head teachers at the principal schools are provided with quarters and, in some instances, unmarried teachers are also provided with quarters. The cost of accommodation including meals at the two principal hotels is from 12s. 6d. a day upwards. Private board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £12 per month. Laundry charges in the case of an unmarried officer amount to about £1 10s. a month, and transport to about £5 a month. These figures apply in the case of an officer appointed from abroad; local officers can, of course, live more cheaply. Unfurnished or furnished houses in residential districts are obtained only with difficulty; the normal rent in the case of the former is about £100 a year and in the case of the latter about £150 a year.

The cost of living for the labouring classes is moderate. The price of clothing has decreased considerably during recent years. The staple diet of the labourers is rice, flour, sugar, cornmeal, local

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crops such as sweet potatoes, yams, cassava and eddoes, fresh and salt fish, pickled pork, beef, margarine, cotton seed oil, milk, eggs, vegetables and fruit.

The following comparison between the staple foodstuffs of the average labourer and his wages is recorded :—

1 lb. Flour = 1½d. ... 2s. per day = 16 lb.
1 lb. Rice = 1½d. ... 2s. per day = 16 lb.
1 lb. Cornmeal = 1½d. ... 2s. per day = 16 lb.
1 lb. Fresh beef = 6d. ... 2s. per day = 4 lb.
1 lb. Bread = 4d. ... 2s. per day = 6 lb.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

The schools of the Island, though largely assisted and, in the case of elementary schools, entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom seven must be members of the Legislature. The Inspectors of Schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 126 in 1935; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English universities. The Cambridge Junior Local Certificate Examination is also taken by pupils of both second-grade and first-grade schools, merely as a test of the work of the schools.

In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1935 was 25,437 and the average attendance 18,220, an increase of 549 and a decrease of 37 respectively as compared with the figures for 1934.

To the number of second-grade schools no additions have been made during the year. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1935 was 444 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 247.

The three first-grade schools are Harrison College and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendance at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1935 was 269 and 159 respectively. The Lodge School, in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 135, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. This school is attended by a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. Most of the College buildings were destroyed by fire in April 1926, but they have been restored and were re-opened in June 1931. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

The total grant for education purposes, exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls, in 1935 was £57,008, of which £1,300 was the cost of office staff, etc., £9,410 grants to first-grade and second grade schools, £1,035 for university education and £43,813 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses.

School gardens are cultivated at some of the elementary schools, and at the Local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in eight schools, while 40 schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work and brush-making. There are cooking classes at five girls' schools, as well as a class for the instruction of teachers in domestic science. Needlework is taught in all girls' schools.

Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (No. 31), nine apprentices completed their apprenticeship period of five years and the Education Board have issued to them certificates of competence as journeymen tradesmen. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen. Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is confined to placing them where they can assist men who are engaged in work themselves, and it is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc. Masters and apprentices are paid allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. a year from public funds.

The Colony was visited in January 1932, by a Commission appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to report on and submit recommendations for the improvement of the educational system. The Commission's Report was published simultaneously in the British West Indies on the 19th of April 1933, and the recommendations of the Education Board in connection therewith have received the consideration of the Government, and are being acted upon.

An Education Loan Act has been passed by the Legislature authorizing the raising of a loan of £80,000 to be expended on erecting new school buildings and a training college for teachers, and on enlarging existing buildings, for primary and secondary education. Work on this scheme has been begun.

The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 135 teachers, 76 male and 59 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 105 (52 male and 53 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant of £600 from the Government. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education .

There are 76 boys and 15 girls at the Industrial Schools. The regular elementary school curriculum is adhered to and, in addition, boys are instructed in carpentry, masonry, tailoring, horticulture, the care of animals and general agriculture, and the girls are taught sewing, laundry work, cooking, simple gardening and fancy needlework (optional). There is also a brass band at the boy's school. The usual school games are encouraged. Generally speaking the boys and girls enjoy excellent health. The staffs of the schools are responsible for the after-care of discharged boys and girls.

Welfare Institutions.

As regards provision for the public welfare, it is the special duty of the Parish Vestries to provide for the aged, sick and poor. All the almshouses are maintained to the standard of cottage hospitals.

There is in existence a Women's Social Welfare League which continues to do good work in the Colony. The Baby Welfare League and the Family Welfare League are subsidiary organizations of the first-named League. The Girls' Industrial Union provides useful training for its members in the following crafts :—Cookery, sewing, basket-making, fancy-work, as well as the arts—music drawing and painting.

There are well-organized branches of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Girls' Friendly Society. The Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides organizations play an important part in the life of the youth of the Colony.

There were 200 Friendly Societies on the Register on the 31st of December 1935. These Societies provide their members with a Christmas bonus, relief in sickness, and assist in the payment of the funeral expenses of members and their dependants. The number of members in all Societies at the 30th of June 1935, was

47,638; the number of dependants of the above members was 111,252; the total contributions paid by members for the year ended the 31st of December 1935, was £59,548.

The principal outdoor games are cricket, football and tennis. Hockey is played at one or two schools and there is an up-to-date golf club. There is also a chess club. There are three cinematograph theatres.

Ample facilities for sea-bathing exist along the southern and western coasts of the Island as well as on isolated spots along the eastern and northern coasts. There are two aquatic clubs and a Royal yacht club.

The Barbados Rifle Association composed of military and civilian members is allowed to use the Government rifle range (up to 600 yards), and encourages rifle shooting under Bisley and Service conditions. Visiting inter-colonial rifle shooting competitions with Trinidad and British Guiana are also carried out annually.

A Naval Welfare League exists under the auspices of the Women's Social Welfare League. It was formed to entertain the warrant officers, petty officers and men of warships visiting this Island, and fulfils a very useful purpose.

There is a Carnegie Free Library, which is supported from public funds. To this is attached a lecture hall which is occasionally used for musical recitals. Within recent years a juvenile branch has been established at the Public Library and the original building is now proving inadequate for its various functions. The Forum Club is still doing useful work.

The Barbados Choral Society gave their usual programme of Christmas music at the Cathedral, and organ recitals were given during the year. The Police band also rendered its usual programmes at the Hastings Rocks, Queen's Park, the Bay Street Esplanade and the Garrison Savannah.

Radio Distribution (Barbados) Limited distributes by means of wires radio programmes daily to about 500 subscribers. The service was inaugurated in May 1935 and relays chiefly programmes from the Empire Station at Daventry.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The Island has a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of 11 Boards of Highway Commissioners.

As stated elsewhere in this Report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 268¼ miles of main roads and approximately 269¾ miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use. It must be borne in mind that, with a population of over 1,000 to the square mile, the problem of maintaining communications has to be approached rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

Before the advent of self-propelled vehicles Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficiency of funds, led to their rapid deterioration.

The first definite step towards improving and preserving them was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power, under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct the arterial roads radiating from Bridgetown. It was estimated that the roads classified as arterial roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile, and that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the City of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the parish of Saint Michael was transferred to the Central Road Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926-7, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1935-6, the sum of £235,699 has been spent on 120 miles of seven arterial roads, plus £115,571 from Government grants and parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's parish.

Railways.

A light railway, 24 miles long, runs through the southern parishes and along the east coast. This railway, which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by the Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £10,000. The actual expenditure was £7,001 and the actual revenue £1,568.

The passenger service has been suspended since January 1934. A bill to amend the law with regard to the railway is under consideration by the Legislature.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years:—

	1933.	*1934.*	*1935.*
Passengers	58,982	—	—
Live Stock	93	22	9
Goods :—			
	Tons.	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses	16,486	16,309	9,300
Canes	11,061	4,944	2,264
Fuel	65	37	14
Sundries	7,098	3,364	229
	34,692	24,654	11,807

Omnibuses.

Owing to the configuration of the land and the improved condition of the roads, practically the whole of the Island is accessible to motor vehicles. The city of Bridgetown and its suburbs are supplied with a well-equipped motor omnibus service which is run by the General Motor Omnibus Company, a company whose advent was responsible for the closing down of the Bridgetown Tramways Company a few years ago. Omnibuses leave the terminus in Trafalgar Square every quarter of an hour for the seaside districts of Hastings, Pockley, Saint Lawrence and Fontabelle, as well as the popular inland residential districts. There is a regular daily service from the country districts in the mornings and back in the evenings.

Fares are down to the very low level of 1½d. per section, which in some cases extends over two miles.

Posts.

There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines :—

Between Europe and West Indies, and Central America :—
Royal Netherlands Line.
Harrison Line.
Hamburg-Amerika Line.
Compagnie.Generale Transatlantique.

Between Canada, Boston and British West India Colonies including British Guiana :—
Canadian National Steamship Company.

Between the United States of America, West Indies and British Guiana :—
Aluminum Line.
Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company.
Booth Line. (South America, West Indies and United States of America.)
Ocean Dominion Line.
American Caribbean Steamship Company.
The McCormick Steamship Company.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below :—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*		*H.M. Ships.*	
	1934.	*1935.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1934.*	*1935.*
Mails for Barbados ...	582	535	2	—	40	42
Mails from Barbados...	571	505	37	42	—	2

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic communication is provided by Cable and Wireless Limited (formerly Imperial and International Communications, Limited), and the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Telephones.

The Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, controls the telephone system in the Colony with the exception of a private branch exchange attached to the Police Department. The system extends throughout the Island, the total wire mileage being 6,500.

Wireless Telegraphy.

Wireless communication is maintained by the station of Cable and Wireless Limited at Bridgetown.

In September 1934, a licence was granted to a private individual for the establishment of a Radio Distribution Station for a period of five years with the possible extension of the licence at the expiration of that time for a further period of five years. The licence has been transferred to a company styled Radio Distribution (Barbados) Limited.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,083, with a net tonnage of 2,150,549, as compared with 1,120 vessels with a tonnage of 2,344,442 during the previous year. In addition 33 ships of war, one Royal Fleet Auxiliary, seven yachts, and two seaplanes visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 530, while 501 were discharged.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados en route and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are :—

The Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from Liverpool and London fortnightly.

The Fyffes Line (Elders and Fyffes, Limited) until May 1935, made fortnightly sailings from Avonmouth calling at Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Cristobal, Port Limon, Jamaica, thence to Avonmouth. This company also carried out a fortnightly service to the West Indies sailing from Avonmouth thence to Jamaica, Santa Marta, La Guaira, Trinidad, Barbados, thence to Avonmouth. The duration of the voyage Avonmouth-Barbados is 13 days and from Barbados-Avonmouth 11 days. This Line ceased to call here in May 1935.

The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) runs a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados, Central American ports and (occasionally) Jamaica, calling at Boulogne and Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth and Havre on the return. At certain times during the year these vessels call at Madeira outward bound and at St. Michaels, Azores, or Madeira when homeward bound.

The Hamburg-Amerika Line operates a monthly service sailing from Hamburg via Antwerp, Dover, Cherbourg, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Curacao, Puerto Colombia, Cartagena, Cristobal to Port Limon. On the return journey these vessels call at Santander, Plymouth and Amsterdam.

The Campagnie Generale Transatlantique provides a monthly service from Havre via Plymouth, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Barbados, Trinidad, The Spanish Main and return. This company also furnishes an inter-colonial service from Martinique, calling at Saint Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad, the Guianas and return.

The Canadian National Steamship Company operates a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados.

The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provides a fortnightly freight service from Canadian ports. Freighters chartered by the Canadian Transport Company call here once a month from Vancouver B.C.

The McCormick Steamship Corporation operates a monthly freight and passenger service sailing from British Columbia, San Francisco, via the Panama Canal to Porto Rico, thence to Barbados, Trinidad and South American ports.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy), the Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (New York Service) and the American Caribbean Line.

Ships of the Aluminum Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados en route to British and Dutch Guiana.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Three private banks are operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of the first-named bank is £4,975,500, while in the case of the other banks the figures are $35,000,000 and $30,000,000 respectively.

The Government Savings Bank.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, at the end of the year under review, there were 13,578 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £744,886. The value of the invested funds was £865,353. The figures for 1934 were, deposits

£693,569, invested funds £841,578, and number of depositors 12,777. The number of depositors shows an increase of 801 and the total amount to their credit an increase of £51,317. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent., but since the 30th of April, 1933, a limit of £300 was placed on new deposits in order to avoid a rush consequent on the reduction by the commercial banks of their rate of interest from 3 per cent. to 2 per cent. from the 1st of May, 1933. The Commercial Banks have made a further reduction to 1½ per cent. in their rate of interest from the 1st of December, 1935.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows:—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman *ex-officio*, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1935, after paying income tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan and salaries, etc., amounted to £7,643 17s. 2d.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1935, was £232,236 as compared with £224,593 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £3,087 as compared with £2,960 for the previous year.

Loan and interest due thereon are a first lien and charge against the plantation in respect of which the loan is made.

Currency.

No changes have occurred in currency during the year but a Government currency note issue was under consideration. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The banks issue five-dollar notes equivalent to £1 0s. 10d., the exchange value being fixed at $4.80 to the pound sterling.

Weights and Measures.

The standard as to weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the standard measure of capacity is less than the standard measure of capacity in the United Kingdom, the local standard being 231 cubic inches to the gallon.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for waterworks and for all Government constructional work and the upkeep of all Government buildings, including the military properties in the Garrison, bridges, wharves and lighthouses.

The roads and railways are each under separate control and are worked apart from the Public Works Department.

Works of importance in process of being carried out by the Department during the year were :—

(1) The building of an engine and boiler house and installation of a pumping plant at Bowmanstc which was completed during the year 1935-6.

(2) Work on the improvement of the public market, the estimated cost of which is £16,300, which was completed during the year 1935-6, with the exception of the abattoir which will be completed during the year 1936-7.

(3) Work on the improvement of the water supply, the estimated cost of which is £142,000, is proceeding by the laying of mains, erection of public standpipes, and the building of a reservoir of one million gallons capacity; this reservoir will be completed during the year 1936-7.

(4) The building of a new twelve-roomed pay ward at the Mental Hospital was completed during the year 1935-6.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Superior Courts of the Island are presided over by a Chief Justice. Inferior jurisdiction (not exceeding £50 at Common Law and £500 in Equity) is vested in two judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal. These judges are also judges of the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown. There are six police magistrates, four of whom in rural districts are also judges of the Petty Debt Courts of those districts. From the decisions and judgments of police magistrates and judges of Petty Debt Courts there is a right of appeal to the Assistant Court of Appeal, the Registrar of the Island sitting with a judge of that Court to hear appeals from the other judge in his capacity as judge of the Petty Debt Court at Bridgetown.

The Juvenile Offenders Act, 1932 (No. 22), which came into force on the 1st of September 1932, establishes courts for dealing with juvenile offenders.

The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £13,705.

Under the authority of Act No. 6 of 1929, Police Magistrates are authorized to allow time for the payment of fines or to allow payment of fines by instalments. Except in special cases, as, for instance, those against seamen in transit, the general practice is to allow time for the payment of fines.

Police.

The Police Force is composed of an Inspector-General, a Deputy Inspector-General, a Senior and a Junior Inspector, and 466 non-commissioned officers and men. Of these, 44 including four supernumeraries are attached to the Harbour Police and perform regular harbour duties.

An efficient band is attached to the Force.

The Inspector-General is Commandant of the Local Forces and is charged also with the control of the Fire Brigade consisting of 25 men.

Prisons.

Glendairy Prison, in the parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony and has accommodation for 275 males and 128 females. Instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, baking and other crafts. The estimated value of work done in the carpenter's shop during 1935 for Government Departments, Schools, etc., was £189. The bakery supplied approximately 32¼ tons of bread to the Mental and Leper Hospitals during the same period. Clothes-washing and cooking are done by the female prisoners.

Juvenile adult prisoners are segregated as far as possible from adults and are instructed in one of the above-named trades.

The Medical Officer attends the prison daily, examining and prescribing for the sick when necessary; his orders are carefully carried out by male and female hospital attendants on the staff. The health of all the prisoners during 1935 was good.

The following is a comparative statement for the last three years :—

	1933.	1934.	1935.
Total number of persons committed to prison	**956**	**1,053**	**1,124**
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	**24**	**37**	**28**
Daily average in prison (males)	**133**	**138**	**136**
Daily average in prison (females)	**28**	**24**	**29**
Police Court convictions	**9,411**	**9,941**	**9,931**
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	**224**	**344**	**345**
Convictions by Superior Court	**54**	**65**	**63**

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts.

The Legislative Session 1935-6 opened on the 10th of December 1935, the previous Session having ended on the 15th of October 1935. The following is a list of the most important Acts passed during the period 1st April 1935, to 31st March 1936 :—

1935.

No. 10. *The Police (Amendment) Act*, 1935, which provides for an increase in the establishment of the Police Force.

No. 22. *The Statute Laws (New Edition) Act*, 1935, an Act for printing a new edition of all the Acts of this Island.

No. 31. *The Commercial Travellers and Transient Traders Act*, 1935, providing for the licensing in certain cases of traders who are not domiciled in Barbados.

No. 33. *The Real Property (Devolution) Act*, 1935, establishing a Real Representative.

No. 34. *The Cinematograph (British Films) Act*, 1935, which requires the exhibition of a certain proportion of British films.

No. 35. *The Cotton Levy Export Act*, 1935; which imposes a levy on all cotton exported from the Island for the purpose of furthering the interests of the Sea Island cotton industry.

No. 49. *The Public Employees Leave Regulation Act*, 1935; which puts on a proper footing the grant of leave to whole time employees of Government who are not members of the Civil Service.

No. 52. *The General Loan and Inscribed Stock Act*, 1935; which declares the terms and conditions applicable to loans authorized to be raised by the Government, and provides for the creation of Inscribed Stock.

No. 56. *The Matrimonial Causes Act*, 1935; relating to Divorce and Matrimonial causes.

No. 59. *The Waterworks Loan Act*, 1935; whereby authority is given for the raising of a loan of £152,000 to meet the cost of improving and extending the water supply.

No. 63. *The Education Loan Act*, 1935; which authorizes the raising of a loan of £80,000 for the erection of new school buildings and enlargement of existing schools.

No. 68. *The Department of Science and Agriculture (Amendment) Act*, 1935; providing new nomenclature for officers of the Department, and adding to the staff a Lecturer in Botany, Chemistry and Physics, and a Peasants Agricultural Instructor.

1936.

No. 12. *The Fancy and Extra-Fancy Molasses Stablization Act*, 1936; which imposes a tax on molasses the proceeds of which are to be distributed among the growers of cane from which sugar is made.

Subsidiary Legislation.

Of the subsidiary legislation passed during the year, the following is considered to be of importance :—

Proclamations:

1. Appointing a day of supplication to Almighty God for deliverance from storm and other calamities.
2. Fixing date of operation of Cinematograph (British Films) Act, 1935.
3. Prohibiting exportation of certain warlike stores to Italy.

Orders:

1. Fixing the levy upon all cotton exported at three-quarters of a halfpenny per pound.
2. Textile (Quotas) Order, 1935.
3. Order under authority of paragraph 2 of Article 5 of the Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) Order, 1935.
4. Order under authority of paragraph 2 of Article 5 of the Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) Order, and paragraph 4 of Article 1 of the Treaty of Peace (Covenant of the League of Nations) No. 2 Order, 1935.

Regulations:

1. Colonial Police and Fire Brigade Long Service Medal.
2. Wireless Telegraphy (Experimental) Regulations, 1935.
3. The Efficiency Medal, Barbados.
4. The Efficiency Decoration, Barbados.
5. Tariff Regulations, 1935.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years :—

	Revenue. £	*Expenditure.* £
1931-2	415,645	424,088
1932-3	457,843	425,875
1933-4	510,270	490,909
1934-5	479,960	414,109
1935-6	530,644	463,147

Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve fund set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1936, was £185,775.

Special Funds.

	£	*s.*	*d.*
Public Buildings Insurance Fund ...	69,988	0	11
Water Boat Renewal Fund	15,370	15	2
Red Cross Fund	935	14	9
Public Officers Security Fund	12,263	2	11½
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	38,685	19	6
Reparation Payments Fund	4,604	16	0
	£241,848	9	3½

Revenue.

The Revenue for 1935-6 shows an increase of £50,684 over that of the previous year, the principal head showing an increase being " Reimbursements in Aid " £48,475. The increase under all heads was £74,481, while the decrease totalled £23,796. The increase is due to abnormal revenue from Loan Funds in the last financial year.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1935-6 was £463,147, an increase of £49,038 as compared with the previous year. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads " Police ", " Education ", " Medical ", " Public Works " and " Charges of Debt ". The expenditure under these heads was as follows.

		Compared with 1934-5.	
	£		£
Police	48,903	an increase of	4,717
Education	57,037	an increase of	2,336
Medical	42,625	a decrease of	2,925
Public Works	37,280	a decrease of	3,995
Charges of Debt	14,271	an increase of	53
	£200,116		

The total expenditure on these five departments, £200,116, represents 46 per cent. of the total administration expenses, excluding special charges.

Special expenditure on restoration of roads amounted to £26,940.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the 31st of March 1936 was £423,420, the Sinking Fund on that date being £50,128, as compared with £267,920 and £45,905 respectively in 1935. The loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March 1936 were as follows :—

Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.* £	*s.*	*d.*	*Amount outstanding.* £	*s.*	*d.*	*Sinking Fund.* £	*s.*	*d.*	*Date Redeemable.*
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	13,137	13	9	£11,000 November, 1961. £6,000 July, 1963. £20,000 February, 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000	0	0	90,000	0	0	5,118	4	7	£25,000 October, 1975. £65,000 7th October, 1978.
General Local Loan Act, 1933 (No. 25) and Redemption Acts, 1933 (Nos. 26 and 46)	140,920	0	0	140,920	0	0	31,872	9	5	2nd January, 1963.
Water Works Loan Act, 1935	155,500	0	0	155,500	0	0	—	—	—	15th February, 1961.
	£423,420	0	0	£423,420	0	0	£50,128	7	9	

The revenue derived from the main heads of taxation during the year was as follows:—Customs, £249,335; Excise Duty on Rum and Distillers' Licences, £58,318; and Income Tax, £39,586. The Stamp Act 1916 (No. 17), and the amendments thereto impose duties for the use of the Island upon the several instruments specified in the Schedules to the said Act. Revenue derived from this source during the year was:—embossing cheques, £790 10s. 0d.; licences on note issue of banks, £225; and sale of stamps for revenue purposes under the Stamp Act, £3,250 10s. 0d.

Customs Tariff (summarized).—The Customs Tariff Act at present in force is Act No. 20 of the year 1921 as amended by Act No. 25 of the year 1926, which substituted a new tariff of duties. Further amendments were effected by Act No. 10 of 1927, Act No. 10 of 1930, Act No. 35 of 1932, Act No. 10 of 1933, Act No. 1 of 1934, Act No. 3 of 1935, Act No. 12 of 1935, Act No. 19 of 1935 and Act No. 50 of 1935.

These Acts provide for preferential and general rates of duty, the former rates applying to all articles of British Empire origin, the latter to goods from foreign sources.

The revenue derived from specific duties is approximately twice that received from *ad valorem* duties, high rates of specific duties being imposed on luxury articles such as spirits, wines and tobacco while *ad valorem* duties are generally fixed at 10 per cent. preferential and 20 per cent. general rate, the general being usually twice the preferential rate.

In addition to the duties levied under the Acts mentioned above there is a 10 per cent. surtax imposed by Act No. 16 of 1929.

There are no export duties.

Agricultural implements and machinery for the manufacture of sugar and its products, including rum, and for other local manufacturers are on the list of goods exempted from payment of duty.

There is no hut or poll tax in force in the Colony.

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The 25th Anniversary of the Accession to the Throne of His Majesty King George V was celebrated for a week commencing on Monday, the 6th of May 1935. The Legislature has agreed to a permanent memorial to commemorate the occasion to take the form of a Maternity Ward and Ante-natal Clinic at the General Hospital. Private enterprise has resulted in the establishment of a park in the parish of Saint Philip called The King George V Play Field Memorial which it is proposed to open to the public on Empire Day 1936.

In September 1935 the House of Assembly passed an Address to the Governor drawing attention to the serious condition of the sugar industry and asking that a delegation might be sent to present the position to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. A

Joint Select Committee of both Houses of the Legislature prepared a report on the present condition and future outlook of the sugar industry of the Colony for presentation to the Secretary of State for the Colonies. Two delegates were appointed, one being nominated by the Legislative Council and one by the House of Assembly. The delegates and their advisers were received by the Secretary of State on the 22nd of October 1935.

News of the illness of His Majesty King George V was received in the Colony with great anxiety. A service of intercession for His Majesty's recovery was held in the Cathedral on Monday afternoon, the 20th of January. The announcement of His Majesty's death was made by the Governor to both Houses of the Legislature who attended in the Legislative Council on the 21st of January. Seventy minute guns were fired in H.M.S. *Dundee* which was in harbour at the time, and all business was suspended in Bridgetown.

The proclamation of His Majesty King Edward VIII was made on Wednesday, the 22nd January. A naval detachment from H.M.S. *Dundee* attended the ceremony with the Local Forces and a Royal Salute of 21 guns was fired by that ship. After the ceremony, the Oath of Allegiance was administered to members of the Legislature in the Council Chamber and Joint Addresses were passed by the Legislature. These were transmitted to the Secretary of State along with other resolutions of sympathy and loyalty which were passed by various local bodies.

A Memorial Service was held in the Saint Michael's Cathedral on the 28th January 1936, the date of the funeral of His late Majesty King George the Fifth. Seventy minute guns were fired in H.M.S. *Dundee*.

Ships of His Majesty's Home Fleet did not visit the Colony during the spring of 1936. The Cadet Training Cruiser H.M.S. *Frobisher* made its usual annual visit in February 1936.

Other visiting ships were the Brazilian Training Ship *Almirante Saldanha* in June 1935, the United States Ships *Trenton*, *Claxon* and *Taylor* in July and August 1935, H.M.S. *Ajax* in August and September 1935, and H.M.S. *Dundee* in January 1936.

APPENDIX.

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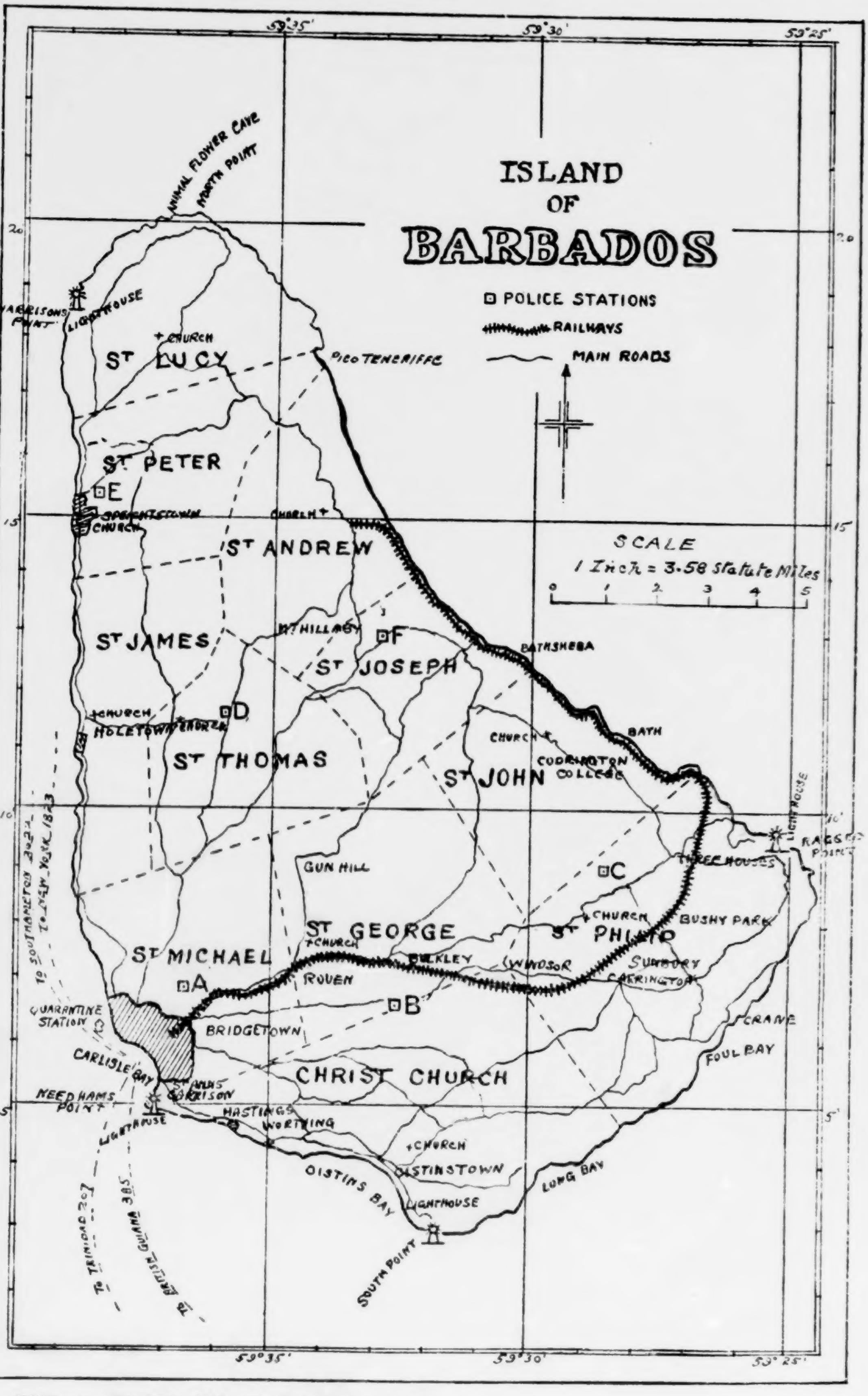
The Annual Blue Book and the Annual Reports of the several Government Departments may be obtained from the Colonial Secretary's Office, and from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, 4, Millbank, London, S.W.1, at varying prices. The Annual Report on the Social and Economic Progress of the People of Barbados is obtainable at the Colonial Secretary's Office or from His Majesty's Stationery Office in London.

The Booklet "Gem of the Caribbean," issued by the Publicity Committee, can be obtained from local stationers at one shilling per copy.


ISLAND OF BARBADOS
POLICE STATIONS
RAILWAYS
MAIN ROADS
SCALE
1 Inch = 3.58 Statute Miles
0 1 2 3 4 5
59°35'
59°30'
59°25'
20'
15'
10'
5'
ANIMAL FLOWER CAVE
NORTH POINT
HARRISONS POINT
LIGHTHOUSE
ST LUCY
CHURCH
PICO TENERIFFE
ST PETER
E
SPEIGHTSTOWN
CHURCH
ST ANDREW
ST JAMES
MT HILLABY
F
ST JOSEPH
BATHSHEBA
CHURCH
HOLETOWN
D
ST THOMAS
BATH
CODRINGTON COLLEGE
ST JOHN
LIGHT HOUSE
RAGGED POINT
THREE HOUSES
GUN HILL
C
BUSHY PARK
ST GEORGE
ST PHILIP
ST MICHAEL
BUCKLEY
WINDSOR
SUNBURY
CARRINGTON
ROUEN
A
B
QUARANTINE STATION
BRIDGETOWN
CRANE
CARLISLE BAY
FOUL BAY
CHRIST CHURCH
NEEDHAMS POINT
ST ANNS GARRISON
HASTINGS
WORTHING
LIGHTHOUSE
OISTINSTOWN
OISTINS BAY
LONG BAY
LIGHTHOUSE
SOUTH POINT
TO SOUTHAMPTON 3024
TO NEW YORK 1823
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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BARBADOS FOR 1936-7

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population at the end of 1936 of 188,294. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the "Caribbee Islands" in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629 in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies, while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers find it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° Fahr. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados:—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics . . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

Unlike most of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Barbados possesses a representative Legislature but not full responsible government. The Crown retains only the right of veto on legislation, but the Home Government retains the appointment and control of the public officers, except the Colonial Treasurer who is nominated annually by the House of Assembly and his appointment confirmed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the King, and a House of Assembly of 24 members, elected annually on the basis of a moderate franchise.

The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

For electoral purposes the Island is divided into 12 constituencies, viz., the city of Bridgetown, and the 11 parishes of Saint Michael, Saint George, Christ Church, Saint Philip, Saint John, Saint Joseph, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint James, Saint Peter and Saint Lucy, each of which returns two members to the General Assembly. The qualifications of members and electors are regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2). Qualification of members is set out in section 2 of this Act and is briefly as follows:—

(1) Ownership of 30 acres of land, with a dwelling-house of the value of not less than £300.

(2) Ownership of any real property of the absolute value of £1,500.

(3) Beneficial interest in a property the rental value of which is not less than £120 per annum.

(4) Receipt either personally or by one's wife of an annual income of not less than £200.

Qualification of voters is set out in section 3 of the Act and is, briefly, as follows:—

(1) Possession of land or freehold property of the annual value of not less than £5 or receipt of rents and profits in respect of such property for at least 12 months prior to claim to be registered.

(2) Possession of land, house or place of business parochially assessed at £15 per annum.

(3) Payment of taxes of not less than £2 per annum in respect of Bridgetown, and of not less than £1 per annum in respect of Parochial Constituencies.

(4) Receipt of salary or income of not less than £50 per annum.

(5) Recognition as a barrister, solicitor, physician or surgeon; or the holding of a degree of any university of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or a testamur from Codrington College.

(6) Occupation of a house rated at not less than £50 per annum and payment of rent of not less than £15 per annum.

The Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9), regulates the procedure at elections of members to serve in the General Assembly and in the several Vestries of the Island.

The total number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls at the present time is 6,409 and is made up as follows:—

Bridgetown, 982; Saint Michael, 1,939; Christ Church, 1,083; Saint George, 320; Saint Philip, 317; Saint John, 147; Saint Joseph, 267; Saint Andrew, 234; Saint Peter, 210; Saint Lucy, 263; Saint James, 211; Saint Thomas, 326.

The total at the time of the last election—December, 1936, was 6,299. It is is now over the number included in 1931 which was 5,155. A portion of this increase is due to the inclusion of the police in the electoral rolls.

The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 7·39 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 10 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last (1921) census returns.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Executive Council appointed by the Crown, and consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, *ex-officio,* and two other members. The Executive Committee—appointed under the provisions of the Executive Committee Act, 1891 (No. 24)—consists of the members of the Executive Council, *ex-officio,* one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly, nominated annually by the Governor. This body introduces all money votes, prepares the Estimates and initiates all Government measures.

Local Government is in the hands of 11 Parish Boards or Vestries. The Vestry is elected annually under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2), and the Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9). The Rector of the parish is *ex-officio* Chairman of the Vestry. The functions of the Vestry include the appointment of Guardians for the care of the sick and poor, of Commissioners of Health for the control of sanitation, and of Highways Commissioners for the upkeep of roads. To provide funds for these purposes the Vestries levy rates on lands and houses, and taxes on trade, vehicles, draught animals, etc.

III.—POPULATION.

The population on the 31st of December, 1936, was estimated to be 188,294, 85,134 being males and 103,160 females. The increase over the estimated total for 1935 is 3,382 or 1·7 per cent. and is made up as follows:—

Natural increase, births exceeding deaths by	2,474
and immigration exceeding emigration by	908
	3,382

Estimates of population so calculated have usually been found to be exaggerated when a census is taken.

Based on the returns given in the last census (1921) the population is made up as follows:—

	Per cent.
White	7
Black	71
Mixed	22

The last census was taken in 1921; therefore the figures given in the last paragraph, as well as this, are only approximations. The tendency for large numbers of the urban population to drift into the metropolitan parish of Saint Michael is very pronounced, and has been much encouraged during the last two decades by the indiscriminate dividing and selling or letting of land lots which was not controlled until 1928. The following shows, with as reasonable a degree of accuracy as is expected in such approximations, the estimated numbers in each parish:—

Parish.	*Estimated population.*
Saint Michael	67,000
Christ Church	24,000
Saint George	14,500
Saint Philip	15,500
Saint John	10,500
Saint James	11,000
Saint Thomas	8,000
Saint Peter	9,500
Saint Lucy	8,500
Saint Joseph	8,000
Saint Andrew	8,500

The density per square mile for the Island is 1,114.

Marriages.

There were 981 marriages performed during 1936, 719 by the Church of England, 94 by the Methodists, 25 by the Moravians, 15 by the Roman Catholics, 24 by civil authorities, and the remainder by 21 other denominations.

The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 10·51.

The illiterate percentage among those married during the year is 13·51 as against 12·7 last year.

Births and Deaths.

The following are the figures for the last five years:—

Year.	*Births.*			*Deaths.*		
	No.	*Rate per M.*	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Percentage uncertified.*
1932 ...	5,391	30·76	59·69	3,325	18·97	2·2
1933 ...	5,316	29·79	59·91	3,593	20·13	2·6
1934 ...	5,380	29·44	57·42	4,176	23·04	2·8
1935 ...	5,315	28·94	59·00	3,702	20·16	1·2
1936 ...	5,933	31·80	59·00	3,459	18·54	1·5

Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality rate has decreased from 220 last year to 198.

Immigration and Emigration.

Each year of the past decade, with the exception of 1928, shows an increase of immigration over emigration. This increase in 1935 amounted to 859. The average net increase for each of the past five years was approximately 980. During 1936 there were 9,661 immigrants as compared with 8,753 emigrants.

IV.—HEALTH.

General, Principal Causes of Death, etc.

The climate is salubrious and semi-tropical. The maximum temperature varies between 82° Fahr. in the cool months and 90° Fahr. in the hot season, the minimum being between 69° Fahr. and 73° Fahr. The Island is a natural health resort.

Malaria made its appearance in the Island in October, 1927; but since the 17th October, 1929, no new case has occurred, and no anopheline mosquito larvae have been found since January, 1930.

The causes of death are classified in accordance with the Intermediate International List of Causes of Deaths as adopted for use in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, some being further sub-divided to meet local requirements.

The following are the principal diseases or groups of diseases responsible for the mortality:—

Causes.	*Total Deaths.*
Syphilis	240*
Diarrhoea and enteritis	482†
Diseases of the heart	210
Old age	202
Nephritis	275
Pneumonia	206
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	241
Diseases of arteries and veins	150
Congenital debility	199
Cancer	141
Other diseases of early infancy	169
Tuberculosis	120
Bronchitis	65
Pellagra	73

* Of these 172 were under the age of five years.

† Of these 424 were under the age of five years.

Treatment of the Sick, Medical Assistance, etc.

The General Hospital with an X-ray department is maintained by the Government and controlled by a Board of Directors. The surgical wards are excellently equipped and work of a very high order is done. Patients from any parish, sent in accordance with very liberal rules, are received and treated free. There are also pay wards of two grades attached. The resident staff consists of five surgeons, a matron, an assistant matron, a tutor sister, a theatre sister, a pay ward sister and 83 local nurses. The visiting staff consists of three visiting surgeons, three assistant visiting surgeons, one ophthalmic surgeon, one assistant ophthalmic surgeon, one ear, nose and throat surgeon, one assistant ear, nose and throat surgeon, one dental surgeon, one radiologist, and a masseuse.

The Government also maintains a well organized Mental Hospital and a Leper Hospital. Treatment on recognized up-to-date lines is carried out at both institutions. Persons who were inmates of the Leper Hospital and have been discharged as cured are assisted from Government funds if found to be in need.

Each parish maintains an almshouse. These 11 almshouses, besides being places of refuge for the destitute poor, are in most, if not all, instances, practically cottage hospitals. Isolation hospitals are also provided by each parish and would be available in time of epidemic disease.

In each parish there is a parochial medical officer (in Saint Michael, two) whose duty it is to attend the sick poor, either in their homes or at the almshouse, free or at reduced fees. Dispensaries for the cheap supply of medicine are maintained in seven of the 11 parishes; in the other four the parochial medical officer or a local druggist is paid to supply medicine free.

A baby welfare clinic is conducted voluntarily by a committee of ladies, assisted by a medical practitioner, and does very good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds. The Government and Vestry of Saint Michael each grant the organization £150 per annum. For 1936-7 however, the Government grant was increased by £50. Any expenditure beyond this has to be made up from donations and subscriptions by private individuals, etc. The number of "new" babies entered for treatment was 377, and 1,200 pints of milk and 1,443 lb. of barley were distributed free.

During 1935, a new building was erected on the ground very kindly given by Mr. George Browne, C.M.G., in memory of his mother, first President of the League, who for several years most generously placed her house at their disposal. The building was opened in 1936.

Venereal disease clinics have been established at the General Hospital by the Government, and by the parochial authorities, with certain assistance from the Government clinic, in Saint George, Saint John, Saint James, Saint Thomas, Saint Peter, Saint Lucy, Saint Joseph and Saint Andrew.

The names of 495 persons appeared on the Roll and Register kept under the Midwives and Nurses Registration Act; 188 as midwives and nurses, 230 as midwives only, and 77 as nurses only.

There is a well-equipped Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory which is maintained by the Government.

A sanitation officer was appointed in November, 1936, and a system of inspection of children at the elementary schools has been initiated.

Organization.

The organization for public health work consists of a Chief Medical Officer, a Sanitation Officer, the General Board of Health, and 11 Boards of Commissioners of Health (one for each parish). The Boards are appointed annually. The Port Health Officer and his assistant are responsible for all quarantine measures.

The General Board of Health employs six inspectors for general work throughout the Island, and the Boards of Commissioners of Health employ 75, of whom 26 are in the parish of Saint Michael and 15 in Christ Church.

Public measures are carried out by 11 independent boards of Commissioners of Health, none of which has an expert adviser equivalent to a Medical Officer of Health. Their activities can be co-ordinated by the General Board of Health to a minimal extent, and that only by invitation.

Barbados is a party to the West Indian Intercolonial Sanitary Convention which regulates quarantine procedure among the British West Indies, excluding Jamaica and British Guiana. Some of these colonies also adhere to the International Sanitary Convention (Paris), but although recommended as advisable by the Quarantine Board and the Quarantine Officers, Barbados cannot adhere as the port of Bridgetown has not the necessary organization or equipment.

At the examinations of the British West Indian Centre of the Royal Sanitary Institute held in British Guiana in 1935, one of the 15 men in Barbados who are qualified to hold the post of Sanitary Inspector sat for and obtained the Certificate in " Tropical Hygiene for Sanitary Inspectors ". No candidates attended the last examination in Trinidad in 1936.

Drainage Works, etc.

There are very few swampy places in Barbados, and it has not been necessary for the Government or parishes to undertake drainage works.

V.—HOUSING.

Wage-earners.

The general standard of sanitary arrangements of the cottages of the wage-earning population and peasant proprietors is very low. These cottages, which are almost invariably constructed of wood with shingled roofs, are small, and generally much overcrowded.

About 68 per cent. of the entire population of the Island lives in cottages of less than three rooms, the kitchen, if there is one, or other arrangements for cooking, being separate. Very few are provided with sanitary arrangements which can be considered even moderately satisfactory. The letting separately of rooms in a building is not extensively practised except in certain parts of Bridgetown. Labourers on plantations and in factories live near the estates in small detached cottages often owned by themselves but on rented land. Frequent inspections and the enforcement of the sanitary laws are the means relied on for dealing with the primitive sanitary arrangements in slum areas. About 75 per cent. of the occupants own the cottages or houses in which they live, but few own the land on which the buildings stand.

Better class of houses, etc.

The better class of house is well constructed and is usually supplied with a water-borne system of sewage disposal with which little, if any, fault can be found. These houses are also in almost every case connected with the Government waterworks system which furnishes a pure and continuous piped supply. Six hundred and seven standposts at which good drinking water can be obtained free of charge were in use on 31st March, 1937. Except in a few localities which are difficult of access, it is rare that any dwelling is situated farther than half-a-mile from a standpost.

VI.—PRODUCTION.

The rainfall for the year 1936, although approximating in its total to the figure recorded in the previous year, was not so well distributed throughout the Island, with the exception of the northern parish, Saint Lucy, in which the precipitation was ideal.

As a result, it is anticipated that the crop now being reaped will not be more than 2,000 tons under the record of 129,319 tons of the previous year.

Besides the dark crystal sugar which amounted to 102,057 tons in 1936, there continue to be made small tonnages of muscovado and hogshead sugars. The amount of the former manufactured each year depends on the market in Canada for " choice molasses ", as the process used involves the production of both these commodities.

Hogshead sugar is almost entirely required for incorporating into certain classes of biscuits, and the demand is consequently limited to a few hundred tons each year.

In addition to the above sugar-cane products, another molasses is made entirely from the fresh sugar-cane juice from which no sugar has been extracted. This is known as fancy molasses, and provides the sucrose portion of the diet of the great majority of lumbermen and fisherfolk in Eastern Canada. The equivalent of twenty to twenty-seven thousand tons of sugar are manufactured annually into fancy molasses and for a number of years the rationalization of this trade has presented difficult problems, which the large over-production of fancy molasses in 1935 brought to a head.

Legislation was enacted to control the 1936 production and again this year, with the result that it is anticipated that by the end of the 1937 shipping season, all surplus stocks will have gone into consumption.

An Act to establish a Bank for the granting of loans to peasant owners was passed by the Legislature in November, 1936. The personnel of the Peasants' Loan Bank consists of five persons appointed by the Governor, Legislative Council, House of Assembly and the Agricultural Society. At their first meeting the Bank appointed a Manager and, in the near future, arrangements will be made to advance loans to peasants under this Act.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The value of the total trade of the Colony and of imports and exports for the last five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	*Imports.* £	*Exports.* £	*Total Trade.* £
1932	1,656,876	1,379,006	3,035,882
1933	1,740,161	1,378,705	3,118,866
1934	1,914,554	1,479,277	3,393,831
1935	1,840,783	1,135,136	2,975,919
1936	2,004,484	1,493,335	3,497,819

The particulars of goods imported and entered for transhipment during the last five years is shown below. Values are no longer kept, but only the number of packages.

Year.	£	*No. of Packages.*
1932	185,413	—
1933	—	182,007
1934	—	199,512
1935	—	230,212
1936	—	229,530

Imports during 1936 as compared with 1935 show an increase of £163,701. The principal increases of imports are seen in the following:—Machinery for sugar £22,510; electrical apparatus (other than radios) £21,578; oils: gas, solar, diesel, power and other petroleum distillate fuels £18,165; flour wheaten or rye £16,275; boots and shoes all kinds £12,906; wood unmanufactured—other kinds (including Douglas Fir) £12,302; bags and sacks (empty) £12,242; apparel other than socks and stockings £11,880; parcel post (dutiable) £11,530; other cotton manufactures except apparel £11,432; artificial silk piece goods £10,383; pork salted £10,083; fish, dried, salted or smoked £9,880; wool and woollen manufactures except apparel £9,860; hardware all kinds £8,836; shingles £5,940; motor cars and trucks £4,796.

The principal decreases occurred in:—Staves and shooks £24,005; iron and steel manufactures all kinds £15,851; rice £9,935; crude oil £6,469; vegetables, fresh: onions and potatoes £5,698; seeds for expressing oil therefrom: cotton seed £4,951; oilmeal and oil-cake £3,836; coal, coke and patent fuel £3,317; margarine £3,103; meat, fresh £2,951; medicines and drugs £1,818; bacon and hams £1,661; manures other kinds £1,557.

For the five years prior to 1935 the average quantity of coal taken by steamers as bunkers was 3,967 tons. In 1936 the number of tons taken was nil. The following figures relate to the export of coal as bunkers during the last five years:—

Year.	*Steamships.*	*Tons of Coal.*
1932	12	1,390
1933	10	1,126
1934	16	956
1935	1	15
1936	—	—

The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin of the largest proportion of imports into the Colony. The following figures show the distribution of the Colony's import trade for the last five years:—

	1932. Per cent.	*1933. Per cent.*	*1934. Per cent.*	*1935. Per cent.*	*1936. Per cent.*
United Kingdom ...	45·6	48·0	42·3	40·9	42·7
Canada	15·1	11·8	14·4	14·1	14·1
Other parts of the British Empire.	18·1	17·5	18·0	18·9	18·5
United States of America	10·2	10·4	12·9	11·7	10·4
Other foreign countries	11·0	12·3	12·4	14·4	14·3

The value of imports from the above-named places for 1936 exclusive of bullion and specie, was as follows:—

	£
United Kingdom	855,024
Canada	283,387
Other parts of the British Empire	369,798
United States of America	208,847
Other foreign countries	287,055

Total imports are classified as follows:—

	£
Food, drink, etc.	717,824
Raw materials	183,221
Manufactured articles	1,040,678
Animals not for food	9,327
	£1,951,050
Specie, parcel post	53,434
	£2,004,484

Imports of bullion and specie amounted to £373.

The value of the principal articles imported from Canada as compared with the United States of America is as follows:—

	Canada.	*U.S.A.*
	£	£
Boots and shoes	3,054	173
Butter	203	—
Oilmeal (cattle food)	1	31,473
Cornmeal	47	10,211
Fish (salted)	5,272	—
Flour	46,738	27
Oats	16,776	—
Manures	13,800	3,755
Salt beef	1,043	618
Salt pork	27,017	6,150
Wood (various) (manufactured and unmanufactured)	76,532	39,979

The total value of exports was £1,493,335 of which £1,355,809 represents the value of the produce and manufactures of the Colony and £137,526 the value of items re-exported. As compared with the four previous years, the quantity and value of the principal articles of local produce exported are as follows:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Sugar—					
Tons ...	74,710	78,994	87,459	39,392	97,811
Value £ ...	732,948	788,183	774,714	330,550	772,046
Molasses—					
Gal. ...	8,541,078	9,003,274	11,626,180	10,785,568	10,592,694
Value £ ...	423,175	436,812	536,679	637,096	546,291
Cotton—					
lb.	21,561	69,605	1,670	41,277	11,295
Value £ ...	963	3,149	90	2,775	740
Rum—					
Gal. ...	47,137	41,926	58,024	77,892	109,744
Value £ ...	4,517	4,018	5,561	6,491	10,289

In addition to the rum exported, the quantity consumed locally during the year amounted to 199,939 gallons.

The value of minor exports locally produced or manufactured was as follows:—

	£
Bay Rum	351
Biscuits	10,567
Cotton Seed Meal	334
Fruit (tamarind)	3,454
Hides and Skins	4,441
Lime, " Building "	2,768
Manjak	204
Vegetables, fresh	2,222

The following table gives the value of the domestic exports to the various countries for the past five years:—

	1932.	*1933.*	*1934.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom...	324,807	442,309	171,646	32,103	438,440
Canada	707,533	702,916	1,021,123	790,182	759,195
Other parts of the British Empire.	73,951	71,580	76,882	76,533	62,059
United States of America.	82,260	37,000	66,684	92,800	88,451
Other foreign countries.	6,717	3,712	6,310	7,446	6,770
Stores (ships) ...	440	676	341	662	894
	1,195,708	1,258,193	1,342,986	999,726	1,355,809

The percentage of increases and decreases of the domestic exports to the above places as compared with 1935 are:—

	Increase per cent.	*Decrease per cent.*
United Kingdom	29·0	—
Canada	—	22·8
Other parts of the British Empire... ...	—	3·1
United States of America	—	2·8
Other foreign countries	—	·2

Canada remains the largest purchaser of the principal domestic products of the Island, namely, sugar and molasses.

VIII.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages.

The average rates of wages paid to estate labourers are:—Men, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per day; women, 10d. to 1s. 3d. per day; children, 6d. to 8d. per day. These labourers generally live in houses which they own, but on land belonging to the estates. In the purchase and repair of their houses they receive assistance from their employers, who deduct the amounts advanced in instalments from their wages. They pay a small weekly rent for the plots on which their houses are situated.

The activities of the port of Bridgetown furnish employment for a large number of casual labourers. The average wages are as follows:—a lighter crew of four men receive from $4·15 to $6·35 per trip, according to the size of the lighter, when handling general cargo, and from $5·40 to $7·15 per trip when handling a cargo of coal. Overtime rates are double the ordinary rates. Ships' labourers are paid $1·50 each per day for general cargo and from $1·50 to $2·40 per day for a cargo of coal, according to the nature of the duties, e.g., guymen are paid $1·50 per day and spaders $2·40. Overtime is at the rate of

18 cents per hour. In steamers' warehouses permanent labourers are paid from \$5·00 to \$6·00 per week, casual labourers \$1·20 per day. They receive overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour. Boatmen engaged in attending on the loading or discharging of steamers are paid at the rate of \$1·00 per day with overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour.

The wages of artisans are as follows:—Carpenters, masons and mechanics: foremen from 3s. to 5s. per day, others from 1s. 9d. to 4s. 2d. per day.

Domestic servants in the employ of persons of the upper class are paid wages at the following rates per week:—

Butler	10s. to 15s.
Housemaid	6s. to 8s.
Nurse	6s. to 10s.
Cook	10s. to 12s. 6d.
Chauffeur	20s. to 30s.
Gardener	8s. to 10s.
Laundress	6s. to 8s.

In the homes of the respectable middle class, domestic servants are paid at an average of 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. per month with or without food as the case may be.

Fishermen are recruited from the agricultural class. Some fishermen own their boats, while others use the boats of private owners and are given a percentage of the catch.

In the Government clerical service, salaries range from £50 per annum for junior cadets to £400 for chief clerks. Heads of departments, magistrates and judges receive salaries varying from £500 to £600, while higher legal and other posts are paid at the rate of £1,000 to £1,200.

Police constables are paid from £70 per annum for third-class constables to £135 per annum for sergeants; prison warders from £75 to £125 per annum, chief warder £200 per annum; matrons from £45 to £90 per annum, chief matron £150 per annum. Attendants at the Government Industrial Schools, Mental Hospital and Leper Asylum from £40 to £100 per annum for males and from £30 to £70 for females. Head male attendants from £150 to £200 per annum; head female attendants from £90 to £150 per annum; postmen from £35 to £55 per annum.

In the Public Works Department the following scales of wages are paid:—

I. *General Works*:—Artisans, 3s. to 4s. per day; labourers, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 6d. per day.

II. *Waterworks*:—Plumbers, 18s. to 35s. per week; jointers, 15s. per week; tap repairers, 10s. to 17s. per week; district foremen, 16s. 8d. to £1 5s. per week; engine drivers, 3s. 6d. to 5s. per day; firemen, 2s. 6d. per day; labourers, men, 1s. 9d. to 2s. per day; women, 1s. to 1s. 6d. per day.

Railway employees are paid as follows:—Locomotive drivers, £1 15s. per week; firemen, 18s. per week; cleaners, £1 per week; artisans, 3s. per day; guards, £1 10s. per week; platelayers, etc., 1s. to 2s. 4d. per day; porters, messengers, etc., 6s. to 16s. 3d. per week.

The employees of the *Central Road Board* are paid as follows:—Road overseers, 2s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per day; roller drivers and mechanics, 4s. 2d. to 5s. per day; artisans, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d. per day, and by task; labourers, 10d. to 2s. 3d. per day.

Cost of Living.

The ordinary prices of necessary commodities are as follows:—

Cornmeal	1½d. per lb.
Sugar (white)	1¾d. per lb.
Firewood	1s. 8d. per 100 lb.
Milk (condensed)	3½d. to 5d. per tin.
Milk (fresh)	2d. to 2½d. per pint.
Rice	1½d. per lb.
Beef (salt)	5d. to 6d. per lb.
Beef (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Pork (salt)	8d. per lb.
Pork (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Mutton (fresh)	1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb.
Flour	1½d. per lb.
Salmon	6d. to 1s. 3d. per tin.
Fish (fresh)	9d. to 1s. per lb.
Fish (salt)	4d. to 8d. per lb.
Grain (whole peas)	2d. per pint.
Grain (split peas)	2d. per pint.
Tea	1s. 8d. to 3s. 4d. per lb.
Margarine	10d. to 1s. per lb.
Coffee (grain)	6d. to 8d. per lb.
Coffee (ground)	1s. to 1s. 8d. per lb.
Kerosene Oil	1½d. to 2d. per pint.
Soap (household)	7d. to 9d. per bar.
Cocoa	8d. to 1s. per lb.
Bread (white)	4d. per lb.
Butter (fresh)	1s. 9d. to 2s. per lb.
Cheese	1s. 6d. per lb.
Eggs	9d. to 1s. 3d. per doz.

In the case of Government officials quarters partly furnished, are provided for the Colonial Secretary (on payment of rent) and unfurnished quarters (free of rent) for the Director of Agriculture, the Commissioner of Police, and a few other officials. Head teachers at the principal schools are provided with quarters and, in some instances unmarried teachers are also provided with quarters. The cost of accommodation including meals at the two principal hotels is from 12s. 6d. a day upwards. Private board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £12 per month. Laundry charges in the case of an unmarried officer amount to about £1 10s. a month, and transport to about £5 a month. These figures apply in the case of an officer appointed from abroad; local officers can, of course, live more cheaply. Unfurnished or furnished houses in residential districts are obtained only with difficulty; the normal rent in the case of the former is about £100 a year and in the case of the latter about £150 a year.

The cost of living for the labouring classes is moderate. The price of clothing has decreased considerably during recent years. The staple diet of the labourers is rice, flour, sugar, cornmeal, local crops such as sweet potatoes, yams, cassava and eddoes, fresh and salt fish, pickled pork, beef, margarine, cotton seed oil, milk, eggs, vegetables and fruit.

IX.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

The schools of the Island, though largely assisted and, in the case of elementary schools, entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom five must be members of the Legislature, and three persons with educational experience. The inspectors of schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 126 in 1936; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English universities. The Cambridge Junior Local Certificate Examination is also taken by pupils of both second-grade and first-grade schools, merely as a test of the work of the schools.

In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1936 was 26,113 and the average attendance 19,376, an increase of 676 and of 1,156 respectively as compared with the figures for 1935.

To the number of second-grade schools no additions have been made during the year. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1936 was 470 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 271.

The three first-grade schools are Harrison College and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendance at Harrison and Queen's Colleges for 1936 was 274 and 161, respectively. The Lodge School in Saint John's Parish, with an attendance of 140, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. This school is attended by a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licenses, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. Most of the College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but they have been restored and were re-opened in June, 1931. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

The total grant for education purposes, exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls, in 1936 was £59,706, of which £1,400 was the cost of office staff, etc., £10,200 grants to first-grade and second-grade schools, £1,035 for university education and £46,211 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses.

School gardens are cultivated at most of the elementary schools, and at the Local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in 13 schools, while 65 schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work and brush-making. There are cooking classes at five girls' schools, as well as a class for the instruction of teachers in domestic science. Needlework is taught in all girls' schools. Nearly every rural school has a school garden.

Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (No. 31), ten apprentices completed their apprenticeship period of five years and the Education Board have issued to them certificates of competence as journeymen tradesmen. The course of training lasts from three years to five years according to the trade chosen.

Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is confined to placing them where they can assist men who are engaged in work themselves, and it is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc. Masters and apprentices are paid allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. a year from public funds.

An Education Loan Act has been passed by the Legislature authorizing the raising of a loan of £80,000 to be expended on erecting new school buildings and a training college for teachers, and on enlarging existing buildings, for primary and secondary education. Work on this scheme has been begun.

The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 141 teachers, 79 male and 62 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 111 (55 male and 56 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant of £600 from the Government. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education.

There are 92 boys and 20 girls at the Industrial Schools. The regular elementary school curriculum is adhered to and, in addition, boys are instructed in carpentry, masonry, tailoring, horticulture, the care of animals and general agriculture, and the girls are taught sewing, laundry work, cooking, simple gardening and fancy needlework (optional). There is also a brass band at the boys' school. The usual school games are encouraged. Generally speaking, the boys and girls enjoy excellent health. The staffs of the schools are responsible for the after-care of discharged boys and girls.

Welfare Institutions.

As regards provision for the public welfare, it is the special duty of the Parish Vestries to provide for the aged, sick and poor. All the almshouses are maintained to the standard of cottage hospitals.

There is in existence a Women's Social Welfare League which continues to do good work in the Colony. The Baby Welfare League and the Family Welfare League are subsidiary organizations of the first-named League. The Girls' Industrial Union provides useful training for its members in the following crafts:—cookery, sewing, basket-making, fancy-work, as well as the arts—music, drawing and painting.

A Children's Goodwill League was established in the parish of Saint Michael in the middle of 1935 for the purpose of providing a mid-day meal for poor Elementary School children whose parents are unable to provide adequate nourishment for them. The League is supported by voluntary contributions and is run by a band of voluntary workers. The children receive medical and dental treatment weekly from practitioners whose services are given free of charge.

A similar organization has recently been established in the parish of Christ Church.

There are well-organized branches of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Girls' Friendly Society. The Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides organizations play an important part in the life of the youth of the Colony.

There were 201 Friendly Societies on the Register on the 31st of December, 1936. These Societies provide their members with a Christmas bonus, relief in sickness, and assist in the payment of the funeral expenses of members and their dependants. The number of members in all Societies at the 31st of December, 1936, was 53,318, but a large number of persons belong to more than one Society; the number of dependants of the above members was 121,692; the total contributions paid by members for the year ended the 31st of December, 1936, was £66,280.

The principal outdoor games are cricket, football and tennis. Hockey is played at one or two schools and there is an up-to-date golf club. There is also a chess club. There are three cinematograph theatres.

Ample facilities for sea-bathing exist along the southern and western coasts of the Island as well as on isolated spots along the eastern and northern coasts. There are two aquatic clubs and a Royal yacht club.

The Barbados Rifle Association composed of military and civilian members is allowed to use the Government rifle range (up to 600 yards), and encourages rifle shooting under Bisley and Service conditions. Visiting inter-colonial rifle shooting competitions with Trinidad and British Guiana are also carried out annually.

A Naval Welfare League exists under the auspices of the Women's Social Welfare League. It was formed to entertain the warrant officers, petty officers and men of warships visiting this Island, and fulfils a very useful purpose.

There is a Carnegie Free Library, which is supported from public funds. To this is attached a lecture hall which is occasionally used for musical recitals. Within recent years a juvenile branch has been established at the Public Library and the original building is now proving inadequate for its various functions. The Forum Club is still doing useful work.

The Barbados Choral Society gave their usual programme of Christmas music at the Cathedral, and organ recitals were given during the year. The Police band also rendered its usual programmes at the Hastings Rocks, Queen's Park, the Bay Street Esplanade and the Garrison Savannah.

Radio Distribution (Barbados) Limited distributes, by means of wires, radio programmes daily to about 750 subscribers. The service was inaugurated in May, 1935, and relays chiefly programmes from the Empire Station at Daventry.

X.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The Island has a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of 11 Boards of Highway Commissioners.

As stated elsewhere in this Report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 268¼ miles of main roads and approximately 269¾ miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use. It must be borne in mind that, with a population of over 1,000 to the square mile, the problem of maintaining communications has to be approached rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

Before the advent of self-propelled vehicles Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficiency of funds, led to their rapid deterioration.

The first definite step towards improving and preserving them was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power, under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct the arterial roads radiating from Bridgetown. It was estimated that the roads classified as arterial roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile, and that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the City of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the parish of Saint Michael, was transferred to the Central Road Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

In 1936, at the request of the Commissioners of Highways of the parish of Saint Andrew, responsibility for repairs of the roads of that parish was transferred to the Central Road Board.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926-7, and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1936-7, the sum of £269,913 has been spent on 132 miles of arterial roads, plus £124,353 from Government grants and parochial funds on the roads of Saint Michael's parish.

Railways.

A light railway, 24 miles long runs through the southern parishes and along the east coast. This railway which was formerly operated by a company, was acquired by the Government in 1916 and is now conducted by a Board of Management whose funds are derived from the Central Government. Provision made for the working of the railway during the year amounted to £7,500. The actual expenditure was £6,533 and the actual revenue £661.

The passenger service has been suspended since January, 1934, and it has now been decided to close down the whole railway service.

The following comparative statement shows the number of passengers, animals, and quantity of goods carried by the railway during the last three years:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Passengers	—	—	—
Live Stock	22	9	12
	Tons.	*Tons.*	*Tons.*
Goods:—			
Sugar, Syrup and Molasses ...	16,309	9,300	1,613*
Canes	4,944	2,264	—
Fuel	37	14	6
Sundries	3,364	229	223
	24,654	11,807	1,842

Omnibuses.

Owing to the configuration of the land and the improved condition of the roads, practically the whole of the Island is accessible to motor vehicles. The city of Bridgetown and its suburbs are supplied with a well-equipped motor omnibus service which is run by the General Motor Omnibus Company, a company whose advent was responsible for the closing down of the Bridgetown Tramways Company a few years ago. Omnibuses leave the terminus in Trafalgar Square every quarter of an hour for the seaside districts of Hastings, Rockley, Saint Lawrence and Fontabelle, as well as the popular inland residential districts. There is a regular daily service from the country districts in the mornings and back in the evenings.

Fares are down to the very low level of 1½d. per section, which in some cases extends over two miles.

Posts.

There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies and the United States of America by steamers of the under-mentioned steamship lines:—

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* Sugar only.

Between Europe and West Indies, and Central America:—

Royal Netherlands Line.
Harrison Line.
Hamburg-Amerika Line.
Compagnie Generale Transatlantique.

Between Canada, Boston and British West India Colonies including British Guiana:—

Canadian National Steamship Company.

Between the United States of America, West Indies and British Guiana:—

Aluminum Line.
Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company.
Booth Line. (South America, West Indies and United States of America.)
Ocean Dominion Line.
American Caribbean Steamship Company.
The McCormick Steamship Company.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails, and other particulars are given below:—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*		*H.M. Ships.*	
	1935.	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1936.*	*1935.*	*1936.*
Mails for Barbados ...	535	505	—	8	42	13
Mails from Barbados ...	505	476	42	45	2	1

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic communication is provided by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company and the Western Telegraph Company, Limited, associated Companies of Cables and Wireless, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Telephones.

The Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, controls the telephone system in the Colony with the exception of a private exchange attached to the Police Department. The system extends throughout the Island, the total wire mileage being 6,700. A new automatic service is being installed by the Company.

Wireless Telegraphy.

Wireless communication is maintained by the station of the West India and Panama Telegraphy Company at Bridgetown.

In September, 1934, a licence was granted to a private individual for the establishment of a Radio Distribution Station for a period of five years with the possible extension of the licence at the expiration of that time for a further period of five years. The licence has been transferred to a company styled Radio Distribution (Barbados), Limited.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,145, with a net tonnage of 2,033,206, as compared with 1,083 vessels with a tonnage of 2,150,549 during the previous year. In addition four ships of war, one Royal Fleet Auxiliary, and ten yachts visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 590, while 538 were discharged.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados en route and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are:—

The Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from Liverpool and London fortnightly.

The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) runs a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Barbados, Central American ports and (occasionally) Jamaica, calling at Boulogne and Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth and Havre on the return. At certain times during the year these vessels call at Madeira outward bound and at St. Michaels, Azores, or Madeira when homeward bound.

The Hamburg-Amerika Line operates a monthly service sailing from Hamburg via Antwerp, Dover, Cherbourg, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Curacao, Puerto Colombia, Cartagena, Cristobal to Port Limon. On the return journey these vessels call at Plymouth and Amsterdam.

The Compagnie Generale Transatlantique provides a monthly service from Havre via Plymouth, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Barbados, Trinidad, The Spanish Main and return. This company also furnishes an intercolonial service from Martinique, calling at Saint Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad, the Guianas and return.

The Canadian National Steamship Company operates a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north-bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados.

The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provides a fortnightly freight service from Canadian ports. Freighters chartered by the Canadian Transport Company call here once a month from Vancouver B.C.

The McCormick Steamship Corporation operates a monthly freight and passenger service sailing from British Columbia, San Francisco, via the Panama Canal to Porto Rico, thence to Barbados, Trinidad and South American ports.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy) and the American Caribbean Line.

Ships of the Aluminum Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Barbados en route to British and Dutch Guiana.

XI.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Three private banks are operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of the first-named bank is £4,975,500, while in the case of the other banks the figures are $35,000,000 and $30,000,000, respectively.

The Government Savings Bank.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, at the end of the year under review, there were 15,216 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £787,976. The value of the invested funds was £937,587. The figures for 1935 were, deposits £744,886, invested funds £865,353, and number of depositors 13,578. The number of depositors shows an increase of 1,638 and the total amount to their credit an increase of £43,090. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent., but since the 30th of April, 1933, a limit of £300 was placed on new deposits in order to avoid a rush consequent on the reduction by the commercial banks of their rates of interest from 3 per cent. to 2 per cent. from the 1st of May, 1933. The Commercial Banks have made a further reduction to 1½ per cent. in their rate of interest from the 1st of December, 1935.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows:—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman *ex-officio,* one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1936, after paying income tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan and salaries, etc., amounted to £7,161 3s. 2½d.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1936, was £239,495 as compared with £232,236 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £3,106 as compared with £3,087 for the previous year.

Loan and interest due thereon are a first lien and charge against the plantation in respect of which the loan is made.

Currency.

No changes have occurred in currency during the year but it is proposed to issue Government currency notes in the near future. Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The banks issue five-dollar notes equivalent to £1 0s. 10d., the exchange value being fixed at $4.80 to the pound sterling.

Weights and Measures.

The standard as to weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the standard measure of capacity is less than the standard measure of capacity in the United Kingdom, the local standard being 231 cubic inches to the gallon.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for waterworks and for all Government constructional work, the upkeep of all bridges, wharves, lighthouses and Government buildings, including the military properties in the Garrison.

The roads and railway are each under separate control and are worked apart from the Public Works Department.

Works of importance in process of being carried out by the Department during the year were:—

(1) Work on the improvement of the public market, at an estimated cost of £16,300. The market building was completed during the year 1935-6; the abattoir will be completed during the year 1937-8.

(2) Work on the improvement of the water supply, the estimated cost of which is £142,000 is proceeding by the laying of mains, erection of public standpipes, fixing of fire hydrants, supply of water to public elementary schools, and the building of three reservoirs, one of 1¼ million gallons capacity, and two of 1 million gallons capacity. One of these will be completed during the year 1937-8.

(3) Work on the building of a tuberculosis hospital for the Parish of Saint Michael at a cost of £3,472 was commenced. This will be completed during the year 1937-8.

The total number of free public standposts in use in the Colony as at the 31st March, 1937, was 607.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Superior Courts of the Island are presided over by a Chief Justice. There is an Assistant Court of Appeal, consisting of two Judges, which has jurisdiction both as a Court of first instance and as a Court of review. In its original jurisdiction this Court determines suits between £20 and £50 in amount in cases arising out of contract, and between £10 and £50 in cases arising out of tort, and suits in equity not exceeding £500 in value. In its appellate jurisdiction, the Court reviews the decisions of the several Police Magistrates and of the Judges of the Petty Debt Courts. An appeal lies from the decisions of the Assistant Court of Appeal to the Court of Error, over which the Chief Justice presides.

There are six Police Magistrates, four of whom in the rural districts are also Judges of the Petty Debt Courts of those districts; while for the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown there is a separate Judge. The jurisdiction of the Petty Debt Court is limited to £20 in cases of contract and £10 in cases of tort.

The Juvenile Offenders Act, 1932 (No. 22), which came into force on the 1st September, 1932, establishes Courts for dealing with juvenile offenders.

The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £13,434.

Under the authority of Act No. 6 of 1929, Police Magistrates are authorized to allow time for the payment of fines or to allow payment of fines by instalments. Except in special cases, as for instance, those against seamen in transit, the general practice is to allow time for the payment of fines.

Police.

The Police Force is composed of a Commissioner, a Deputy Commissioner, two Superintendents (one of whom is also Assistant Superintendent of Fire Brigade) and 466 non-Commissioned officers and men. Of these, one Sergeant-Major and 43 men including four supernumeraries form the Harbour Police and carry out regular harbour duties.

A Band consisting of 22 non-commissioned officers and men and five Cadets under the direction of a Bandmaster is attached to the Force.

The Commissioner is Commandant of the Local Forces and is also Superintendent of the Fire Brigade. The Fire Brigade consists of a Foreman and 24 non-commissioned officers and men.

Prisons.

Glendairy Prison, in the parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony and has accommodation for 275 males and 128 females. Instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, baking and other crafts. The estimated value of work done in the carpenter's shop during 1936 for Government departments, schools, etc., was £135. The bakery supplied approximately 31 tons of bread to the mental and leper hospitals during the same period. Clothes-washing and cooking are done by the female prisoners.

Convicted prisoners are classified into stars (i.e., those in for the first time or whose previous sentences were for trivial offences and whose character is otherwise good) and ordinaries (i.e., those not placed in the star class). Each class is worked and kept apart from the other as far as is practicable.

The Medical Officer attends the prison daily, examining and prescribing for the sick when necessary; his orders are carefully carried out by male and female hospital attendants on the staff. The health of all the prisoners during 1936 was good.

The following is a comparative statement for the last three years:—

	1934.	1935.	1936.
Total number of persons committed to prison	1,053	1,124	962
Sentenced to terms of one year or more	37	28	23
Daily average in prison (males)	138	136	130
Daily average in prison (females)	24	29	19
Police Court convictions	9,491	9,931	9,912
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	344	345	206
Convictions by Superior Court	65	63	52

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts.

The Legislative Session 1937-8 opened on the 26th January, 1937, the previous Session having ended on the 9th December, 1936. The following is a list of the most important Acts passed during the period 1st April, 1936, to 31st March, 1937:—

1936.

No. 20. An Act to transfer to the Central Road Board the duties and powers of the Commissioners of Highways of the parish of Saint Andrew.

No. 31. An Act to provide for the appointment of a Public Trustee and to amend the law relating to the administration of Trusts.

Nos. 32 and 41. An Act to amend the Electric Light and Power Act, and an Act to confirm a Provisional Order made by the Governor-in-Executive Committee in favour of the Barbados Electric Supply Corporation Limited. These two enactments provide for the extension of the supply of electricity throughout the Island.

No. 34. An Act to provide for the inspection and control of electric works and for other purposes in connection therewith.

No. 39. An Act to consolidate the law relating to the importation, exportation, manufacture, sale and use of dangerous drugs.

Nos. 42 and 56. Two Acts amending the Customs Tariff with a view to affording protection to articles of British manufacture imported in connexion with the celebration of His Majesty's Coronation.

No. 43. An Act to amend the Volunteer Act; this Act provides for the appointment of a non-commissioned officer of the Regular Forces to be instructor to the local Forces and makes it possible for that officer and for the staff officer of the local Forces to visit the Windward and Leeward Islands on duty, if required.

No. 44. An Act to amend the Poor Relief Act and Public Health (Amendment) Act; this Act makes a change in the terms of appointment of the Chief Medical Officer and of the Sanitation Officer, and gives them more extensive powers.

No. 45. An Act to amend the Judicial Establishment Act; this Act provides for the appointment of a separate Judge to the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown, and relieves the Registrar of judicial functions in the Assistant Court of Appeal.

No. 47. An Act to amend the Education Loan Act; this Act appropriates for repairs and alterations at Harrison College and the Lodge School a part of the money authorized to be raised by way of loan under the principal Act.

Nos. 49 and 51. An Act to amend the Barbados General Hospital Act, and an Act to amend the Barbados General Hospital (Amendment) Act. These two enactments abolish the Court of Trustees and Directors of the Hospital and the statutory committees of that Body, and provide the method whereby the new Hospital Board is to be nominated. The medical and surgical staff has been increased, and provision is made for the payment into the Public Treasury of fees received by the Institution.

No. 55. An Act to establish a bank for the granting of loans to peasant owners.

No. 61. An Act to provide for the amelioration of housing conditions in the City of Bridgetown and its immediate neighbourhood.

No. 68. An Act to amend the Pension Act and the Pension (Amendment) Act. The effects of this Act are, firstly, to enable a public officer at his option to receive on retirement a gratuity and reduced pension in lieu of his ordinary pension, and, secondly, to authorize the payment of a gratuity to the personal representatives of a public officer who dies while in the service of the Crown after having served for at least five years.

No. 72. An Act to amend the Education Act; this Act alters the constitution of the Education Board, revises the salaries of the Inspector and Assistant Inspector of Schools, and makes provision for the appointment of a Junior Assistant Inspector.

No. 62. An Act to regulate the production, marketing and export of Barbados fancy molasses. Under this Act a Board is appointed, charged with the duty of making recommendations as occasion demands, for the attainment of the purpose contemplated. This enactment takes the place of Act No. 12 of 1936, which expired on the 31st October, 1936, and is aimed at securing greater elasticity of administration than existed under the earlier enactment. This Act is itself at present of a temporary character.

1937.

No. 1. An Act to amend the Cinematograph (British Films Act). This Act alters the quota of British Films to be shown in this Colony.

No. 3. An Act to provide for the appointment of a Deputy Speaker (of the House of Assembly).

Subsidiary Legislation.

Of the subsidiary legislation passed during the year, the following is considered to be of importance:—

Proclamations:

1. Appointing a day of supplication to Almighty God for deliverance from storm and other calamities.
2. Fixing date of operation of Dangerous Drugs Act, 1936.
3. Rescinding the application of sanctions against Italy.
4. Prohibiting exportation of warlike stores to Spain.

Orders:

1. Textiles Quotas Order, 1936.
2. Cotton Close Season Order, 1937.

Regulations:

1. Colonial Police and Fire Brigades Long Service Medal Regulations, 1936.
2. Tariff Regulations, 1936.
3. Textiles Quotas Regulations, 1936.
4. The Barbados Fancy Molasses Production and Exportation Regulations, 1937.

XV.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1932-3	457,843	425,875
1933-4	510,270	490,909
1934-5	479,960	414,109
1935-6	530,644	463,147
1936-7	483,142	460,869

Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which it is proposed in due course to transfer to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve fund set out hereunder, on the 31st of March, 1937, was £208,048.

Special Funds.

	£	s.	d.
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	73,937	2	7
Water Boat Renewal Fund	16,195	5	6
Red Cross Fund	971	9	10
Public Officers Security Fund	12,543	0	11
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	40,994	13	6
Reparation Payments Fund	4,604	16	0
	£249,246	8	4

Revenue.

The Revenue for 1936-7 shows a decrease of £45,502 under that of the previous year, the principal head showing a decrease being "Reimbursements in Aid" £50,495. The decrease under all heads was £68,144, while the increase totalled £20,643.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1936-7 was £460,869, a decrease of £2,278 as compared with the previous year. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the Heads "Police", "Education", "Medical", "Public Works", "Charges of Debt" and "The Central Road Board". The expenditure under these heads was as follows:—

		Compared with 1935-6.
	£	£
Police	50,047	an increase of 1,114
Education	58,709	an increase of 1,672
Medical	48,759	an increase of 6,134
Public Works	40,731	an increase of 3,451
Charges of Debt	16,295	an increase of 2,024
Central Road Board	24,774	a decrease of 2,166
	£239,315	

The total expenditure on these six departments, £239,315 represents 51 per cent. of the total administration expenses.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the 31st March, 1937, was £442,220, the Sinking Fund on that date being £55,060, as compared with £423,420 and £50,128 respectively in 1936. The loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1937, were as follows:—

Name of Loan.	Amount of Loan. £	s.	d.	Amount outstanding. £	s.	d.	Sinking Fund. £	s.	d.	Date Redeemable.	
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1915.	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	14,013	14	1	£11,000. £6,000. £20,000.	1961. 1963. 1964.
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000	0	0	90,000	0	0	6,099	16	7	£25,000. £65,000.	1941–78. 1941–78.
General Local Loan Act, 1933 (No. 25) and Redemption Acts, 1933 Nos. 26 and 46).	140,920	0	0	140,920	0	0	33,805	0	7		1944–64.
Water Works Loan Act, 1935	155,500	0	0	155,500		0	—				1961.
Education Loan Act, 1935–63	18,800	0	0	18,800	0	0	—				1956–66.
	£442,220	0	0	442,220	0	0	53,918	11	3		

XVI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The Island was visited by a smaller number of His Majesty's ships in 1936 than has been usual in recent years. One cruiser and two sloops of the America and West Indies Squadron visited the Colony during the year, while five foreign men-of-war were seen in Carlisle Bay during the month of December, namely a destroyer and a submarine of the United States' Navy, a French cruiser, a German battleship and a Swedish cruiser. The Cadet Training Cruiser, H.M.S. *Frobisher*, made its usual annual visit in January and February, 1937. During the spring of 1937 the ships of the America and West Indies Squadron and two destroyers of the Canadian Navy assembled at the Port and remained during the period from the 9th to the 22nd March, 1937. The Canadian destroyers returned with two others on 24th March, and remained for seven days.

The Legislature has agreed to a proposal that the permanent Memorial which is to commemorate in Barbados the Silver Jubilee of His late Majesty King George V should take the form of a maternity ward and ante-natal clinic at the General Hospital. The work of erecting the Memorial has not yet commenced. There has been established in the Parish of Saint Philip a Memorial to His late Majesty King George V in the form of a playfield and park which was opened by the Governor on Empire Day, 1936. This playfield is not supported from public funds but is due entirely to private enterprize.

A suitable site for the establishment of a landing-ground for aeroplanes in Barbados has been selected on lands of Seawell plantation in the Parish of Christ Church, and negotiations for the purchase of this plantation are under way.

An enquiry in relation to the establishment of an old age pension scheme was undertaken during the year and the recommendations of the committee which was appointed to undertake the enquiry have been adopted with slight modifications. Legislation to bring the scheme into operation is now being prepared.

During the year a committee was also appointed to examine the question of nutrition in Barbados in relation to public health and in its bearings on the agricultural, veterinary, educational and general policy of the Government. The committee has submitted its report and preliminary enquiries are now being made with a view to the introduction of certain of its recommendations. Under the provisions of the Bridgetown Housing Act, 1936 (No. 61) a Housing Board has been established with power to initiate a rehousing programme the details of which are now being prepared.

The Employment Agency which was established in 1934 is still in operation. During the three years that this Agency has been in existence 4,109 persons have been registered at different times as requiring employment. The Agency has helped to provide the supply of labour required for various schemes towards which assistance has been granted from the Colonial Development Fund and for the work of erection and enlargement of schools under the Education Loan Acts. It has kept registered applicants in touch with prospective employers and up to the 31st March, 1937, it has been able to assist 998 persons to obtain employment.

The message announcing the intention of His Majesty King Edward VIII to renounce the Throne was received after the Legislative Session 1935-6 had come to an end. It was delivered at a meeting which was held in the Legislative Council Chamber and attended by the members of Executive Council, the Heads of Departments, and those persons who had served as Members of the Legislature during the year.

The ceremony of proclaiming His Majesty King George VI took place at 11 a.m. in Trafalgar Square on Saturday, 12th December, 1936. The Proclamation was read by the Sergeant-at-Arms in the presence of His Excellency the Governor and the other signatories of the Proclamation, and of those who served as members of the Legislature during the last Session, and also of Government officials and a large gathering of the public.

APPENDIX.

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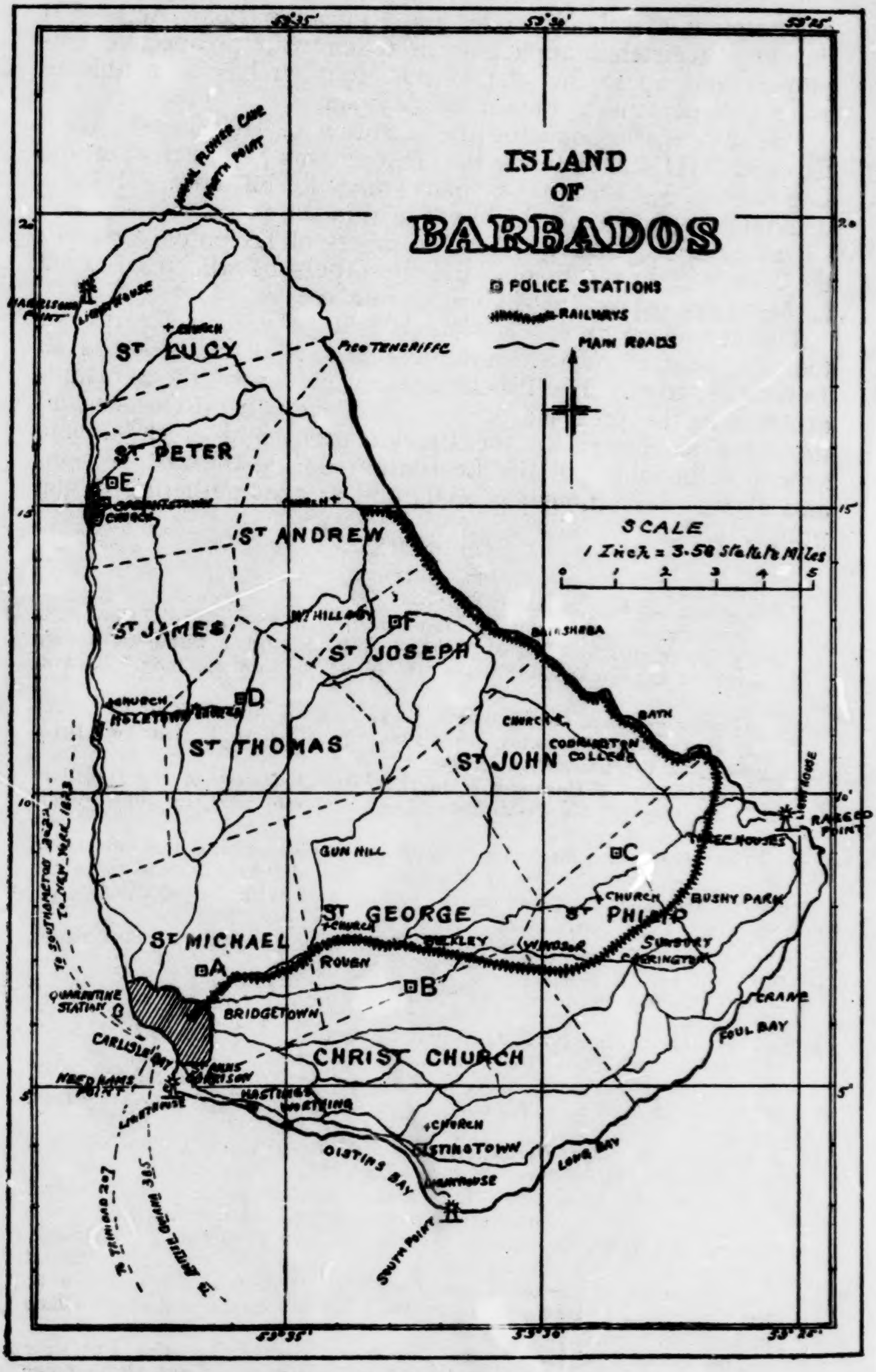
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NORTH POINT
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CHURCH
ST LUCY
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BARBADOS, 1937-38

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BARBADOS FOR 1937-38

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population at the end of 1937 of 190,939. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the " Caribbee Islands " in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629 in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by that of the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all the West Indian Islands. The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies, while visitors from northern climates, in considerable numbers find it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 76° to 86° F.

and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" has this to say about Barbados:—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics . . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

Unlike most of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe shocks of earthquake have not occurred.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Barbados possesses a representative Legislature but not full responsible government. The Crown retains only the right of veto on legislation, but the Home Government retains the appointment and control of the public officers, except the Colonial Treasurer who is nominated annually by the House of Assembly and his appointment confirmed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the King, and a House of Assembly of 24 members, elected biennially on a moderate franchise.

The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

For electrical purposes the Island is divided into 12 constituencies, viz., the city of Bridgetown, and the 11 parishes of Saint Michael, Saint George, Christ Church, Saint Philip, Saint John, Saint Joseph, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint James, Saint Peter and Saint Lucy, each of which returns two members to the General Assembly. The qualifications of members and electors are regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2). Qualification of members is set out in section 2 of this Act and is briefly as follows:—

(1) Ownership of 30 acres of land, with a dwelling-house of the value of not less than £300.

(2) Ownership of any real property of the absolute value of £1,500.

(3) Beneficial interest in a property the rental value of which is not less than £120 per annum.

(4) Receipt either personally or by one's wife of an annual income of not less than £200.

Qualification of voters is set out in section 3 of the Act and is, briefly as follows:—

(1) Possession of land or freehold property of the annual value of not less than £5 or receipt of rents and profits in respect of such property for at least 12 months prior to claim to be registered.

(2) Possession of land, house or place of business parochially assessed at £15 per annum.

(3) Payment of taxes of not less than £2 per annum in respect of Bridgetown, and of not less than £1 per annum in respect of Parochial Constituencies.

(4) Receipt of salary or income of not less than £50 per annum.

(5) Recognition as a barrister, solicitor, physician or surgeon; or the holding of a degree of any university of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or a testamur from Codrington College.

(6) Occupation of a house rated at not less than £50 per annum and payment of rent of not less than £15 per annum.

The Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9), regulates the procedure at elections of members to serve in the General Assembly and in the several Vestries of the Island.

The total number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls at the present time is 6,619 and is made up as follows:—

Bridgetown, 1,026; Saint Michael, 2,012; Christ Church, 1,169; Saint George, 306; Saint Philip, 312; Saint John, 191; Saint Joseph, 253; Saint Andrew, 272; Saint Peter, 211; Saint Lucy, 298; Saint James, 211; Saint Thomas, 358.

The total at the time of the last election—February, 1938, was 6,545.

The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 7·70 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 10 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last (1921) census returns.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Executive Council appointed by the Crown, and consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary, the Attorney-General, *ex-officio,* and two other members. The Executive Committee—appointed under the provisions of the Executive Committee Act, 1891 (No. 24)—consists of the members of the Executive Council, *ex-officio,* one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly, nominated sessionally by the Governor. This body introduces all money votes, prepares the Estimates and initiates all Government measures.

Local Government is in the hands of 11 Parish Boards or Vestries. The Vestry is elected annually under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2), and the Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9). The Rector of the parish is *ex-officio* Chairman of the Vestry. The functions of the Vestry include the appointment of Guardians for the care of the sick and poor, of Commissioners of Health for the control of sanitation, and of Highways Commissioners for the upkeep of roads. To provide funds for these purposes the Vestries levy rates on lands and houses, and taxes on trade, vehicles, draught animals, etc.

III.—POPULATION.

The population on the 31st of December, 1937, was estimated to be 190,939, 86,647 being males and 104,292 females. The increase over the estimated total for 1936 is 2,645 or 1·4 per cent. and is made up as follows:—

Natural increase, births exceeding deaths by	2,159
Immigration exceeding emigration by	486
	2,645

Estimates of population so calculated have usually been found to be exaggerated when a census is taken.

Based on the returns given in the last census (1921) the population is made up as follows:—

	Per cent.
White	7
Black	71
Mixed	22

The last census was taken in 1921; therefore the figures given in the last paragraph, as well as this, are only approximations. The following shows, with as reasonable a degree of accuracy as can be expected in such approximations, the estimated numbers in each parish:—

Parish.	*Estimated population.*
Saint Michael	67,000
Christ Church	24,000
Saint George	14,500
Saint Philip	15,500
Saint John	10,500
Saint James	11,000
Saint Thomas	8,000
Saint Peter	9,500
Saint Lucy	8,500
Saint Joseph	8,000
Saint Andrew	8,500

The density per square mile for the Island is 1,114.

Marriages.

There were 946 marriages performed during 1937, 663 by the Church of England, 93 by the Methodists, 23 by the Moravians, 23 by the Roman Catholics, 26 by civil authorities, and the remainder by 19 other denominations.

The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 10·0

The illiterate percentage among those married during the year is 12·0 as against 13·5 last year.

Births and Deaths.

The following are the figures for the last five years:—

Year.	*Births.*			*Deaths.*		
	No.	*Rate per M.*	*Illegitimate percentage.*	*No.*	*Rate per M.*	*Percentage uncertified.*
1933 ...	5,316	29·79	59·91	3,593	20·13	2·6
1934 ...	5,380	29·44	57·42	4,176	23·04	2·8
1935 ...	5,315	28·94	59·00	3,702	20·16	1·2
1936 ...	5,933	31·80	59·00	3,459	18·54	1·5
1937 ...	5,670	29·92	58·22	3,511	18·52	1·6

Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality rate has increased from 198 per thousand live births last year to 217.

Immigration and Emigration.

Each year of the past decade, with the exception of 1928, shows an increase of immigration over emigration. This increase in 1937 amounted to 486. The average net increase for each of the past five years was approximately 978. During 1937 there were 9,761 immigrants as compared with 9,275 emigrants.

IV.—HEALTH.

General, Principal Causes of Death, etc.

The climate is salubrious and semi-tropical. The maximum temperature varies between 82° Fahr. in the cool months and 90° Fahr. in the hot season, the minimum being between 69° Fahr. and 73° Fahr. The Island is a natural health resort.

Malaria made its appearance in the Island in October, 1927; but since the 17th October, 1929, no new case has occurred, and no anopheline mosquito larvae have been found since January, 1930.

The causes of death are classified in accordance with the Intermediate International List of Causes of Deaths as adopted for use in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, some being further subdivided to meet local requirements.

The following are the principal diseases or groups of diseases responsible for the mortality:—

Causes.	*Total deaths.*
Syphilis	277*
Diarrhoea and enteritis	471†
Diseases of the heart	192
Old age	235
Nephritis	243
Pneumonia	250‡
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	258
Diseases of arteries and veins	150
Congenital debility	235
Cancer	139
Other diseases of early infancy	143
Tuberculosis	117
Bronchitis	100§
Pellagra	43

Treatment of the Sick, Medical Assistance, etc.

The General Hospital with an X-ray department is maintained by the Government and controlled by a Board of Directors. The surgical wards are excellently equipped and work of a very high order is done. Patients from any parish, sent in accordance with very liberal rules, are received and treated free. There are also pay wards of two grades attached. The resident staff consists of five house-surgeons, a matron, an assistant matron, a tutor sister, a theatre sister, a pay ward sister, and 83 local nurses. The visiting staff consists of three visiting surgeons, three assistant visiting surgeons, one ophthalmic surgeon, one assistant ophthalmic surgeon, one ear, nose and throat surgeon, one assistant ear, nose and throat surgeon, one dental surgeon, one radiologist, a masseuse and a Bacteriologist and Pathologist. A new Nurses Home has been erected.

The Government also maintains a well organized Mental Hospital and a Leper Hospital. Treatment on recognized up-to-date lines is carried out at both institutions. Persons who were inmates of the Leper Hospital and have been discharged as cured are assisted from Government funds if found to be in need.

Each parish maintains an almshouse. These 11 almshouses, besides being places of refuge for the destitute poor, are in most, if not all, instances, practically cottage hospitals. Isolation hospitals are also provided by each parish and would be available in time of epidemic disease.

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* Of these 214 were under the age of five years.

† Of these 419 were under the age of five years.

‡ Of these 172 were under the age of five years.

§ Of these 86 were under the age of five years.

Tuberculosis wards are being erected at a few of the Almshouses to provide for better treatment and isolation of patients.

In each parish there is a parochial medical officer (in Saint Michael, two) whose duty it is to attend to the sick poor, either in their homes or at the almshouse, free or at reduced fees. Dispensaries for the cheap supply of medicine are maintained in seven of the 11 parishes; in the other four the parochial medical officer or a local druggist is paid to supply medicine free.

A baby welfare clinic is conducted voluntarily by a committee of ladies, assisted by a medical practitioner, and does very good work, but is greatly hampered by lack of funds. The Government and Vestry of Saint Michael each grant the organization £150 per annum. Any expenditure beyond this has to be made up from donations and subscriptions by private individuals, etc. The number of "new" babies entered for treatment was 385, and 1,350 pints of milk and 1,305 lb. of barley were distributed free. The new building completed in 1936 has proved very satisfactory and fills a want felt for many years.

Venereal disease clinics have been established at the General Hospital by the Government, and by the parochial authorities, with certain assistance from the Government clinic, in Saint George, Saint John, Saint James, Saint Thomas, Saint Peter, Saint Lucy, Saint Joseph and Saint Andrew.

The names of 472 persons appeared on the Roll and Register kept under the Midwives and Nurses Registration Act; 178 as midwives and nurses, 221 as midwives only, and 73 as nurses only.

There is a well-equipped Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory which is maintained by the Government.

The sanitation officer who was appointed in November, 1936, conducts a regular inspection of children at the elementary schools. He also holds courses of instruction for sanitary inspectors to enable them to sit for the Examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Organization.

The organization for public health work consists of a Chief Medical Officer, a Sanitation Officer, the General Board of Health, and 11 Boards of Commissioners of Health (one for each parish). The Boards are appointed annually. The Port Health Officer and his assistant are responsible for all quarantine measures.

The General Board of Health employs six inspectors for general work throughout the Island, and the Boards of Commissioners of Health employ 72, of whom 26 are in the parish of Saint Michael and 14 in Christ Church. Public measures are carried out by 11 independent Boards of Commissioners of Health, none of which has an expert adviser equivalent to a Medical Officer of Health. Their activities can be co-ordinated by the General Board of Health to a minimal extent, and that only by invitation.

Barbados is a party to the West Indian Intercolonial Sanitary Convention which regulates quarantine procedure among the British West Indies, excluding Jamaica and British Guiana. Some of these colonies also adhere to the International Sanitary Convention (Paris), but although recommended as advisable by the Quarantine Board and the Quarantine Officers, Barbados cannot adhere, as the port of Bridgetown has not the necessary organization or equipment.

The examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute was held in Barbados in 1937. Nine candidates qualified as Sanitary Inspectors, one in Sanitary Science as applied to buildings and Public Works, and one in Tropical Hygiene for sanitary inspectors.

Candidates from Grenada and British Guiana attended the examination.

The examinations will be held in British Guiana in 1938.

Drainage Works, etc.

There are very few swampy places in Barbados, and it has not been necessary for the Government or parishes to undertake drainage work.

V.—HOUSING.

Wage-earners.

The general standard of sanitary arrangements of the cottages of the wage-earning population and peasant proprietors is very low. These cottages, which are almost invariably constructed of wood with shingled roofs, are small, and generally much overcrowded.

About 68 per cent. of the entire population of the Island lives in cottages of less than three rooms, the kitchen, if there is one, or other arrangements for cooking, being separate. Very few are provided with sanitary arrangements which can be considered even moderately satisfactory. The letting separately of rooms in a building is not extensively practised except in certain parts of Bridgetown. Labourers on plantations and in factories live near the estates in small detached cottages often owned by themselves but on rented land. Frequent inspections and the enforcement of the sanitary laws are the means relied on for dealing with the primitive sanitary arrangements in the slum areas. About 75 per cent. of the occupants own the cottages or houses in which they live, but few own the land on which the buildings stand.

A Housing Board has been established under the provisions of the Bridgetown Housing Act, 1936 (No. 61). The Board has not yet commenced its programme of work.

Better class of houses, etc.

The better class of house is well constructed and is usually supplied with a water-borne system of sewage disposal with which little, if any, fault can be found. These houses are also in almost every case connected with the Government waterworks system which furnishes a pure and continuous pipe supply. Six hundred and twenty standposts at which good drinking water can be obtained free of charge were in use on 31st March, 1938. Except in a few localities which are difficult of access, it is rare that any dwelling is situated farther than half-a-mile from a standpost.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Barbados contains an area of about 106,000 acres, of which 65,835 acres are under arable cultivation. The remaining area, which is not taken up by roads, houses, etc., is too shallow for arable cultivation and is planted in sour grass (*Andropogon pertusus*).

Of the 65,835 acres of arable land, 51,886 acres are cultivated by plantations and the remainder by small holders. The plantation holdings comprise nine properties of over 500 acres, 210 properties of between 100 and 500 acres, and 297 properties of between 20 and 100 acres. The land occupied by small holders comprises 13,899 holdings of less than one acre; 3,387 holdings of between one and three acres; 445 holdings of between three and five acres, and 308 holdings of between five and twenty acres.

The main exportable productions of the Island are dark crystal sugar, muscovado sugar, fancy molasses and choice molasses, vacuum pan molasses, all of which are products of the sugar cane, and sea island cotton.

The sugar cane crop reaped in 1937, totalled the equivalent of 128,239 tons of sugar and was made up as follows:—

	Tons.
Dark Crystal Sugar	105,036·47
Muscovado Sugar	3,227·73
Fancy Molasses	19,975·29
	128,239·49

399,966 wine gallons of choice molasses, which is a by-product of muscovado sugar manufacture and 1,673,146 wine gallons of vacuum pan molasses, which is a by-product of dark crystal sugar manufacture, were exported during 1937.

There were 32,266 acres of cane reaped by plantations in 1937, and it is estimated that 3,750 acres of cane were reaped by small holders.

The local consumption of sugar is estimated at about 7,000 tons; the remaining production of sugar and molasses is exported.

There were 153 acres of sea island cotton reaped in 1937, which produced 8,204 lb. of lint and 23,073 lb. of seed. All of the cotton lint is exported, whilst the seed is ground locally; the extracted oil is used as a cooking oil and the residue as a stockfeed.

There are 18,039 holdings of less than 20 acres occupied by peasants. The Department of Science and Agriculture is at present engaged in endeavouring to organize these small holders into district agricultural societies to permit of co-operative buying and selling. A small holders' co-operative arrowroot growers' association has been formed, and a factory has been erected with the aid of a loan of £445 from Government to deal with the roots produced. Similarly, a ginger association is in process of formation and, with the assistance of the officers of the Department of Agriculture, other associations of peasants will be fostered.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The trade figures for the year 1937 show a substantial increase over those for the previous year. The increase of £216,166 in the value of imports is due to larger importations caused by the Coronation Celebrations and to some extent to the rise in the prices of commodities.

Large importation of foodstuffs continues and is essential to meet the requirements of the dense population of the Island. Ground provisions are produced locally but it is impracticable for climatic and other reasons for the Island to produce those items which constitute the staple foods of its inhabitants, viz., wheat-flour, rice, salted fish and meat.

There are also substantial importations of lumber and cotton piece goods.

The most important domestic exports are Sugar and Molasses, the export values of which represent approximately 60 and 37 per cent. respectively of the domestic export trade during 1937.

There was a slight improvement in the price of sugar during 1937 but unfortunately the advantages which would normally have been gained in this connexion were lessened by increases in the charges for freight.

For the purpose of stabilizing the fancy molasses industry a Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board was created towards the end of 1936 for a period of one year. Their efforts were successful and legislation of a permanent nature has been enacted.

A large transhipment business is carried on in Barbados, which forms a convenient base for the distribution of cargo to other West Indian islands. Apart from re-exports of goods actually imported into the Colony, 226,191 packages of intransit cargo were dealt with in 1937.

The total value of imports, of domestic exports and re-exports for the last five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Domestic Exports.*	*Re-exports.*
	£	£	£
1933	1,740,161	1,258,193	120,512
1934	1,914,554	1,342,986	136,291
1935	1,840,783	999,726	135,410
1936	2,004,484	1,355,809	137,526
1937	2,220,650	1,498,341	148,368

It will be seen from the figures given above that the visible adverse balance for the year 1937 was £573,941. The large excess of imports over exports is an invariable feature of the trade of the Island and is balanced by interest received on capital invested abroad, remittances from Barbadians who have settled overseas and by tourist traffic.

The following figures show the percentage of total imports provided by the British Empire and Foreign Countries and the principal supplying countries for the last five years:—

	1933. Per cent.	*1934.* Per cent.	*1935.* Per cent.	*1936.* Per cent.	*1937.* Per cent.
(*a*) British Empire	77·3	74·7	73·9	75·3	73·1
Foreign Countries ...	22·7	25·3	26·1	24·7	26·9
(*b*) Principal Supplying Countries :—					
United Kingdom ...	43·0	42·3	40·9	42·7	41·2
Canada	11·8	14·4	14·1	14·1	14·5
United States of America	10·4	12·9	11·7	10·4	11·3

The United Kingdom continues to be the country of origin of the largest proportion of imports into the Colony.

The percentage of domestic exports sent to the British Empire, Foreign Countries and the principal countries of destination for the last five years is as follows:—

	1933. Per cent.	*1934.* Per cent.	*1935.* Per cent.	*1936.* Per cent.	*1937.* Per cent.
(*a*) British Empire	96·7	94·6	89·9	93·0	91·7
Foreign Countries ...	3·3	5·4	10·1	7·0	8·3
(*b*) Principal countries of destination :—					
United Kingdom ...	35·1	12·8	3·2	32·2	43·7
Canada	55·9	76·0	79·0	56·2	45·0
Newfoundland ...	3·0	3·3	5·2	2·6	1·7
United States of America	2·9	4·9	9·3	6·5	8·1

Reference to the above table shows that Canada is our largest purchaser having taken in 1937 45 per cent. of our exports, the United Kingdom being next with 43·7 per cent.

The values and quantities of the principal imports (other than bullion and specie) for the last two years and the principal sources of supply are shown below:—

Article.		*1936.*	*1937.*	*Principal sources of supply.*
Apparel — other than Socks and Stockings.	value £	46,357	45,040	Japan, United Kingdom, U.S.A., Hong Kong.
Boots and Shoes ...	prs.	323,819	392,220	United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Canada.
	value £	42,184	45,305	
Cotton Piece Goods ...	sq. yd.	3,712,462	2,888,224	United Kingdom.
	value £	86,740	72,945	
Cotton Manufactures other than Apparel.	value £	64,167	69,698	United Kingdom.
Bags and Sacks—empty.	No.	1,005,505	1,050,718	India.
	value £	23,126	23,115	
Butter	lb.	617,510	525,865	United Kingdom, France, Irish Free State, New Zealand.
	value £	33,962	32,866	
Cornmeal	bags	25,494	24,786	U.S.A., United Kingdom.
	value £	14,659	18,589	
Electrical Apparatus ...	value £	41,628	54,048	United Kingdom, U.S.A.
Fish, dried, salted or smoked.	qtl.	56,637	48,252	Newfoundland, Canada.
	value £	66,548	63,934	
Flour	bags	92,403	78,468	Canada, United Kingdom.
	value £	106,263	94,162	
Hardware	value £	34,311	39,027	United Kingdom, U.S.A., Germany.
Machinery for the manufacture of Sugar.	value £	54,917	71,332	United Kingdom.
Manures and Fertilisers	tons	10,239	10,583	United Kingdom, Germany.
	value £	87,342	94,984	
Meat :—				
Beef Salted ...	lb.	1,648,093	1,338,145	Argentine, United Kingdom.
	value £	28,842	23,417	
Pork Salted ...	lb.	1,892,850	1,795,650	Canada, Argentine, U.S.A.
	value £	37,857	35,913	
Bacon and Hams ...	lb.	313,884	374,151	Argentine, United Kingdom.
	value £	15,694	18,707	

Article.		*1936.*	*1937.*	*Principal sources of supply.*
Motor Cars	No.	288	332	United Kingdom, Canada.
	value £	40,395	46,312	
Motor Spirit	gal.	1,303,672	1,508,513	Trinidad.
	value £	46,172	40,855	
Oilmeal	lb.	9,442,318	10,715,229	(1936) U.S.A. (1937) U.S.A. and Holland.
	value £	31,474	38,842	
Rice	lb.	19,353,549	20,845,470	India, British Guiana.
	value £	85,478	92,067	
Wood and Timber:—				
Pitch Pine	ft.	2,052,613	2,715,089	U.S.A., Canada.
	value £	19,143	34,127	
Other kinds (including Douglas Fir, White Pine, etc.)	ft.	7,185,494	7,676,767	Canada.
	value £	46,126	65,711	

The quantities and values of the principal domestic exports for the last two years are as follows:—

		1936.	*1937.*
Sugar	tons	97,811	100,806
	value £	772,046	911,255
Molasses	gal.	10,592,694	10,077,390
	value £	546,291	554,889
Rum	gal.	109,744	108,217
	value £	10,289	10,223
Cotton	lb.	11,295	10,841
	value £	740	747

In the year 1933 the quantity of rum exported amounted to 41,926 gallons. The figures given above for 1936 and 1937 show that a marked improvement has taken place in the export trade in this commodity.

The following figures show the values and quantities of the principal re-exports (other than Bullion and specie) for the last two years:—

Article.		*1936.*	*1937.*
Apparel	value £	2,052	3,950
Cotton Piece Goods	sq. yd.	272,536	413,754
	value £	4,745	7,972
Cotton Manufactures other than Apparel	value £	39,455	39,446
Bags and Sacks—empty	No.	126,091	225,780
	value £	2,986	5,115
Butter and Butter Substitutes:—			
Butter	lb.	48,111	50,245
	value £	2,724	3,235
Margarine	lb.	54,725	35,416
	value £	1,408	911
Fish, dried, salted or smoked	qtl.	15,498	13,378
	value £	18,756	18,258
Flour	bags	5,689	2,455
	value £	6,738	3,034
Rice	lb.	576,226	232,164
	value £	2,621	1,056
Oil Edible	gal.	37,941	27,985
	value £	3,907	3,243

Most of the Re-exports go to the British West Indies and British Guiana.

The Imports and Exports of Bullion and Coin and Notes for the last five years are as follows:—

IMPORTS.

Year.	*Gold.*	*Silver.*	*Copper.*	*Notes.*
	£	£	£	£
1933	—	21,100	100	100
1934	—	1,145	500	72
1935	—	1,150	—	76
1936	—	—	300	73
1937	—	500	490	425

EXPORTS.

Year.	*Gold.*	*Silver.*	*Copper.*	*Notes.*
	£	£	£	£
1933	1,324	850	—	—
1934	543	277	—	—
1935	2,185	80	729	16
1936	1,956	5,450	—	—
1937	1,619	100	275	3

Tourist Traffic.

The advantages of Barbados as a health resort are becoming better known every year. The Publicity Committee, which receive a Government grant of £500 per annum in addition to financial support from the trading community, have appointed representatives in the United Kingdom and the Dominion of Canada, and hope to appoint a representative in New York next year. For the convenience of visitors they have established an Information Bureau at the Customs Landing Warehouse.

The number of tourists who visited the Colony during the year 1937 was 6,014 as compared with 5,482 in 1936. Of these 5,125 arrived in 13 tourist ships carrying out organized cruises to the West Indies and 889 were passengers who booked for the round trip in passenger ships which call at Barbados regularly throughout the year. The following table shows the tourist traffic during the past three years:—

Year.	*Tourists Ships.*		*Total Tourists.*
	No.	*Passengers.*	
1935	9	3,362	4,358
1936	10	4,407	5,482
1937	13	5,125	6,014

VIII.—LABOUR.

In Barbados the supply of labour has always been in excess of the demand. During the early years of the present century the problem was successfully solved by the opportunities for emigration which were offered in the work of cutting the canal at Panama, chiefly for labourers and artisans, and in the openings for general employment in Canada and the United States of America. During the period of high prices for sugar, there was a rush of labour into the Republic of Cuba, but with the slump in the sugar market foreigners were turned out of employment and many British subjects have had to be repatriated to their respective Colonies. Opportunities for employment in Canada and the United States of America have practically ceased and Barbados has now to look within for the solution of its problem of over-population.

No census has been held in the Colony since 1921. The census report of that year gives the average numbers of persons employed in the principal industries as follows:—

Agriculture	34,157
Industrial, including manufactures, buildings, etc. ...	23,682
Commerce	13,169
Public Works	1,122

It is considered that the figure of 34,157 is a fair estimate of the average number employed in agriculture to-day, taking into account that no new industry has been developed and no other means of livelihood have been adopted by the people.

Under the present law a labourer is free to offer his services to any employer. This is due to the removal in June, 1937, of the penal clauses in the Master and Servant Act which provided that labourers who were located on sugar plantations should be liable to a fine with imprisonment in lieu of payment if they broke their contract of service.

The problem of unemployment made itself felt in the Colony during the years 1932 and 1933, and an Employment Agency was established in 1934. During the four years that this Agency has been in existence, 5,688 persons have been registered at different times as requiring employment. The Agency has helped to provide the supply of labour required for various schemes towards which assistance has been granted from the Colonial Development Fund and for the work of erection and enlargement of schools under the Education Loan Acts. It has kept registered applicants in touch with prospective employers and up to the 31st March, 1938, it has been able to assist 1,611 persons in obtaining employment.

The following figures give some indication of the activities of the Employment Agency during each month of the year 1937-8:—

STATISTICS RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE YEAR 1937-38.

Month.	*Number of unemployed persons on the registers as applicants for employment at the end of the month.*	*Number of applications for labour received by the Agency and remaining unfilled at the end of the month.*	*Total number of applications for employment registered during the month.*	*Number of vacancies notified by employers during the month.*	*Number of vacancies filled during the month.*
April ...	2,691	801	56	71	33
May ...	2,711	847	96	97	50
June ...	2,738	861	66	61	48
July ...	2,765	881	80	73	53
August ...	2,835	911	120	80	50
September ...	2,978	921	167	80	70
October ...	2,987	933	180	183	171
November ...	3,068	954	130	70	49
December ...	3,159	966	105	64	52
January ...	3,287	979	180	45	32
February ...	3,415	993	189	55	41
March ...	3,468	1,020	210	95	68

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages.

The average rates of wages paid to estate labourers are:—Men, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per day; women, 10d. to 1s. 3d. per day; children, 6d. to 8d. per day. These labourers generally live in houses which they own, but on land belonging to the estates. In the purchase and repair of their houses they receive assistance from their employers who deduct the amounts advanced in instalments from their wages. They pay a small weekly rent for the plots on which their houses are situated.

The activities of the port of Bridgetown furnish employment for a large number of casual labourers. The average wages are as follows:—a lighter crew of four men receive from $5.15 to $7.35 per trip, according to the size of the lighter, when handling general cargo, and from $6.40 to $8.15 per trip when handling a cargo of coal. Overtime rates are double the ordinary rates. Ships' labourers are paid $2.00 each per day for general cargo and from $2.00 to $2.40 per day for a cargo of coal, according to the nature of the duties, e.g., guymen are paid $2.00 per day and spaders $2.40. Overtime is at the rate of 24 cents per hour. In steamers' warehouses permanent labourers are paid from $5.00 to $6.00 per week, casual labourers $1.32 per day.

They receive overtime at the rate of 20 cents per hour. Boatmen engaged in attending on the loading or discharging of steamers are paid at the rate of $1.00 per day with overtime at the rate of 18 cents per hour.

The wages of artisans are as follows:—Carpenters, masons and mechanics: foremen from 4s. 2d. to 5s. per day, others from 3s. to 4s per day.

Domestic servants in the employ of persons of the upper class are paid wages at the following rates per week:—

Butler	10s. to 15s.
Housemaid	6s. to 8s.
Nurse	6s. to 10s.
Cook	10s. to 12s. 6d.
Chauffeur	20s. to 30s.
Gardener	8s. to 10s.
Laundress	6s. to 8s.

and in the homes of the middle class, at an average of 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. per month with or without food as the case may be.

Fishermen are recruited from the agricultural class. Some fishermen own their boats, while others use the boats of private owners and are given a percentage of the catch.

In the Government clerical service, salaries range from £50 per annum for junior cadets to £400 for chief clerks. Heads of Departments, magistrates and judges receive salaries varying from £500 to £600, while higher legal and other posts are paid at the rate of £1,000 to £1,200.

Police constables are paid from £70 per annum for third-class constables to £135 per annum for sergeants; prison warders from £75 to £125 per annum, chief warder £200 per annum; prison matrons from £45 to £90 per annum, chief matron £150 per annum. Attendants at the Government Industrial Schools, Mental Hospital and Leper Asylum from £40 to £100 per annum for males and £30 to £70 for females. Head male attendants from £150 to £200 per annum; head female attendants from £90 to £150 per annum; postmen from £45 to £65 per annum.

In the Public Works Department the following scales of wages are paid:—

I. *General Works.*—Artisans, 3s. to 4s. per day; labourers, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 6d. per day.

II. *Waterworks.*—Plumbers, 17s. 6d. to 35s. per week; jointers, 15s. per week; tap repairers, 14s. to 17s. per week; district foremen, 16s. 8d. to £1 5s. per week; engine drivers, 3s. to 5s. per day; firemen, 2s. 6d. per day; labourers, men, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 6d. per day; women, 1s. to 1s. 3d. per day.

The employees of the *Central Road Board* are paid as follows:—Road overseers, 2s. 6d. to 7s. 6d. per day; roller drivers and mechanics, 4s. 2d. to 5s. per day; artisans, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d. per day, and by task; labourers, 10d. to 2s. 3d. per day.

Cost of Living.

The ordinary prices of necessary commodities are as follows:—

Cornmeal	1½d. per lb.
Sugar (white)	1¾d. per lb.
Firewood	2s. 0d. per 100 lb.
Milk (condensed)	4d. to 5d. per tin.
Milk (fresh)	2½d. per pint.
Rice	1½d. to 2d. per lb.
Beef (salt)	5d. to 6d. per lb.
Beef (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Pork (salt)	8d. per lb.
Pork (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Mutton (fresh)	1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb.
Flour	2d. per lb.
Salmon	6d. to 1s. 3d. per tin.
Fish (fresh)	8d. to 1s. per lb.
Fish (salt)	3d. to 8d. per lb.
Grain (whole peas)	2d. per pint.
Grain (split peas)	2d. per pint.
Tea	1s. 8d. to 3s. 4d. per lb.
Margarine	10d. to 1s. per lb.
Coffee (grain)	6d. to 8d. per lb.
Coffee (ground)	1s. to 1s. 8d. per lb.
Kerosene Oil	1½d. to 2d. per pint.
Soap (household)	7d. to 9d. per bar.
Cocoa	8d. to 1s. per lb.
Bread (white)	4d. per lb.
Butter (fresh)	2s. per lb.
Cheese	1s. 6d. per lb.
Eggs	9d. to 1s. 3d. per doz.

In the case of Government officials, quarters partly furnished are provided for the Colonial Secretary (on payment of rent) and unfurnished quarters (free of rent) for the Director of Agriculture, the Commissioner of Police, and a few other officials. Head teachers at the principal schools are provided with quarters and, in some instances unmarried teachers are also provided with quarters. The cost of accommodation including meals at the two principal hotels is from 12s. 6d. a day upwards. Private board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £12 per month. Laundry charges in the case of an unmarried officer amount to about £1 10s. a month, and transport to about £5 a month. These figures apply in the case of an officer appointed from abroad; local officers can, of course, live more cheaply. Unfurnished or furnished houses in residential districts are obtainable only with difficulty; the normal rent in the case of the former is about £100 a year and in the case of the latter about £150 a year.

The cost of living for the labouring classes is moderate. The price of clothing has decreased considerably during recent years. The staple diet of the labourers is rice, flour, sugar, cornmeal, local crops such as sweet potatoes, yams, cassava and eddoes, fresh and salt fish, pickled pork, beef, margarine, cotton seed oil, milk, eggs, vegetables and fruit.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

The schools of the Island, though largely assisted and, in the case of the elementary schools, entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom five must be members of the Legislature, and three persons with educational experience. The inspectors of schools and office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 126 in 1937; second grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English universities. The Cambridge Junior Local Certificate Examination is also taken by pupils of both second-grade and first-grade schools, merely as a test of the work of the schools and in lieu of inspection.

In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1937 was 26,397 and the average attendance 19,582; an increase of 284 and of 206 respectively as compared with the figures for 1936.

To the number of second-grade schools no additions have been made during the year. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1937 was 488 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 327.

The three first-grade schools are Harrison College and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendance at Harrison College and Queen's College for 1937 was 270 and 172 respectively. The Lodge School in Saint John's parish, with an attendance of 146 is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. This school is attended by a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and Academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. Most of the College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but they have been restored and were reopened in June, 1931. Towards the cost of restoration of the College the Legislature voted a sum of £5,000.

The total grant for educational purposes, exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls, in 1937 was £62,365 of which £1,708 was the cost of office staff, etc., £10,700 grants to first-grade and second-grade schools, £1,259 for university education and £48,038 for elementary schools, the remainder being for incidental expenses.

School gardens are cultivated at most of the elementary schools, and at the Local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Science and Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in 17 schools, while 65 schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basketry, fibre-work and brush-making. There are cooking classes at nine girls' schools, as well as two classes for the instruction of teachers in domestic science. Needlework is taught in all girls' schools. Nearly every rural school has a school garden.

Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (No. 31), ten apprentices completed their apprenticeship period of five years and the Education Board have issued to them certificates of competence as journeymen tradesmen. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen.

Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is confined to placing them where they can assist men who are engaged in work themselves, and it is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc. Masters and apprentices are paid allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. a year from public funds.

The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year, and since its establishment in 1912, 147 teachers, 82 male and 65 female, have passed through the Institute. Of these, 117 (58 male and 59 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant of £600 from the

Government. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education.

An Education Loan Act has been passed by the Legislature authorizing the raising of a loan of £80,000 to be expended on erecting new school buildings and a training college for teachers, and on enlarging the existing buildings, for primary and secondary education. Work on this scheme is progressing.

There are 113 boys and 20 girls at the industrial schools. The regular elementary school curriculum is adhered to and, in addition, boys are instructed in carpentry, masonry, tailoring, horticulture, the care of animals and general agriculture, and the girls are taught sewing, laundry work, cooking, simple gardening and fancy needlework (optional). There is also a brass band at the boys' school. The usual school games are encouraged. Generally speaking, the boys and girls enjoy excellent health. The staffs of the schools are responsible for the after-care of discharged boys and girls.

Welfare Institutions.

As regards provision for the public welfare, it is the special duty of the Parish Vestries to provide for the aged, sick and poor. All the almshouses are maintained to the standard of cottage hospitals.

There is in existence a Women's Social Welfare League which continues to do good work in the Colony. The Baby Welfare League and the Family Welfare League are subsidiary organizations of the first-named League. The Girls' Industrial Union provides useful training for its members in the following crafts: —cookery, sewing, basket-making, fancy-work, as well as the arts—music, drawing and painting.

A Children's Goodwill League was established in the parish of Saint Michael in the middle of 1935 for the purpose of providing a mid-day meal for poor elementary school children whose parents are unable to provide adequate nourishment for them. The League is supported by voluntary contributions and is run by a band of voluntary workers. The children receive medical and dental treatment from practitioners whose services are given free of charge.

A similar organization has also been established in the parish of Christ Church.

The Boy Scouts and the Girl Guides organizations play an important part in the life of the youth of the Colony. There are well-organized branches of the Young Men's Christian Association and the Girls' Friendly Society. There is also a Young Men's Progressive Club which was established in 1935.

There were 199 Friendly Societies on the Register on the 31st December, 1937. These societies provide their members with a

Christmas bonus, relief in sickness, and assist in the payment of the funeral expenses of members and their dependants. The number of members in all societies at the 31st December, 1937, was 54,484, but a large number of persons belong to more than one society; the number of dependants of the above members was 128,442; the total contributions paid by members for the year ended the 31st December, 1937, was £69,429.

The principal outdoor games are cricket, football, and tennis. Hockey is played at one or two schools and there is an up-to-date golf club. There is also a chess club. There are three cinematograph theatres.

Ample facilities for sea-bathing exist along the southern and western coasts of the Island as well as on isolated spots along the eastern and northern coasts. There are two aquatic clubs and a Royal Yacht club.

The Barbados Rifle Association composed of military and civilian members is allowed to use the Government rifle range (up to 600 yds.), and encourages rifle shooting under Bisley and Service conditions. Visiting inter-colonial rifle shooting competitions with Trinidad and British Guiana are also carried out annually.

A Naval Welfare League exists under the auspices of the Women's Social Welfare League. It was formed to entertain the warrant officers, petty officers and men of warships visiting this Island, and fulfils a very useful purpose.

There is a Carnegie Free Library, which is supported from public funds. To this is attached a lecture hall which is occasionally used for musical recitals. Within recent years a juvenile branch has been established at the Public Library and the original building is now proving inadequate for its various functions.

The Barbados Choral Society gave their usual programme of Christmas music at the Cathedral, and organ recitals were given during the year. The Police band also rendered its usual programmes at the Hastings Rocks, Queen's Park, the Bay Street Esplanade and the Garrison Savannah.

Radio Distribution (Barbados), Limited, distributes by means of wires, radio programmes daily to about 850 subscribers. The service was inaugurated in May, 1935, and relays chiefly programmes from the Empire Station at Daventry.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

The Island has a network of roads which lead in all directions. Their maintenance in the past has been vested in the hands of 11 Boards of Highway Commissioners.

As stated elsewhere in this report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 268¼ miles of main roads and approximately 269¾ miles of cross-roads in more or less constant use. It must be borne in mind that, with a population of over 1,000 to the square mile, the problem of maintaining communications has to be approached rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

Before the advent of self-propelled vehicles Barbados was no doubt justly proud of its roads, but the advent of modern methods of transport, together with insufficiency of funds, led to their rapid deterioration.

The first definite step towards improving and preserving them was the passing by the Legislature, in 1926, of an Act constituting a Central Road Board, with power under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of, and reconstruct the arterial roads radiating from Bridgetown. It was estimated that the roads classified as arterial roads could be put in good order at a cost of £165,000, equal to about £1,580 per mile, and that £17,000 should be provided to be spent on other roads in the City of Bridgetown.

In 1927, responsibility for repair of the roads of the parish of Saint Michael, was transferred to the Central Road Board. The work of repairing these roads has now made considerable progress.

In 1936, at the request of the Commissioners of Highways of the parish of Saint Andrew, responsibility for repairs of the roads of that parish was transferred to the Central Road Board.

In 1937—under Act 1937-2—the roads in the parish of Saint Lucy were put under the control of the Central Road Board.

Beginning operations at the close of the financial year 1926-7 and including the amount voted by the Legislature up to the close of the financial year 1937-38, the sum of £300,647 has been spent on 145 miles of arterial roads, plus £145,788 from Government Grants and Parochial Funds on the roads of Saint Michael, Saint Andrew and Saint Lucy.

Railways.

The railway service was suspended on the 30th of September, 1937. The rolling stock has been sold as scrap, and steps are being taken to dispose of the remainder of the railway property.

Omnibuses.

Owing to the configuration of the land and the improved condition of the roads, practically the whole of the Island is accessible to motor vehicles. The city of Bridgetown and its suburbs are well supplied with a well-equipped motor omnibus service which is run by the General Motor Omnibus Company, a company whose advent was responsible for the closing down of the Bridgetown Tramways Company some years ago. Omnibuses leave the terminus in Trafalgar Square every quarter of an hour for the seaside districts of Hastings, Rockley, Saint Lawrence, Fontabelle, Black Rock and Payne's Bay, as well as the popular inland residential districts. There is a regular daily service from the country districts in the mornings and back in the evenings.

Fares are down to the very low level of 1½d. per section, which in some cases extends over two miles.

Posts.

There is an excellent mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned steamship lines:—

Between Europe and the West Indies, and Central America—

Royal Netherlands Line.
Harrison Line.
Hamburg-Amerika Line.
Compagnie-Generale Transatlantique.

Between Canada, Boston and the British West India Colonies including British Guiana—

Canadian National Steamship Company.

Between the United States of America, West Indies and British Guiana—

Aluminium Line.
Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company.
Booth Line. (South America, West Indies and United States of America.)
Ocean Dominion Line.
American Caribbean Steamship Company.
The McCormick Steamship Company.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails and other particulars are given below:—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*		*H. M. Ships.*	
	1936	*1937*	*1936*	*1937*	*1936*	*1937*
Mails for Barbados ...	505	489	8	12	13	43
Mails from Barbados	476	442	45	67	1	—

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic communication is provided by the West India and Panama Telegraph Company and the Western Telegraph Company, Limited, associated Companies of Cable and Wireless, Limited, and the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Telephones.

The Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, controls the telephone system in the Colony with the exception of a private exchange attached to the Police Department. The system extends throughout the Island, the total wire mileage being 6,700. A new automatic service has been installed by the Company.

Wireless Telegraphy.

Wireless communication is maintained by the station of the West India and Panama Telegraph Company at Bridgetown.

In September, 1934, a licence was granted to a private individual for the establishment of a Radio Distribution Station for a period of five years with the possible extension of the licence at the expiration of that time for a further period of five years. The licence has been transferred to a company styled Radio Distribution (Barbados), Limited.

Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,105, with a net tonnage of 2,055,149 as compared with 1,145 vessels with a tonnage of 2,033,206 during the previous year. In addition seventeen ships of war, four Fleet Auxiliaries, fifteen yachts and one seaplane visited the port.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 664 while 664 were discharged.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados en route and again on their return journey to England. The steamship lines serving the Colony are—

The Harrison Line from Glasgow monthly and from Liverpool and London fortnightly.

The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company (Colon Line) runs a regular fortnightly service from Amsterdam to Bardabos, Central American ports and (occasionally) Jamaica, calling at Boulogne and Dover on the outward journey and at Plymouth and Havre on the return. At certain times during the year these vessels call at Madeira outward bound and at St. Michaels, Azores, or Madeira when homeward bound.

The Hamburg-Amerika Line operates a monthly service sailing from Hamburg via Antwerp, Dover, Cherbourg, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guaira, Puerto Cabello, Curacao, Puerto Colombia, Cartagena, Cristobal to Port Limon. On the return journey these vessels call at Plymouth and Amsterdam.

The Compagnie Generale Transatlantique provides a monthly service from Havre via Southampton, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Barbados, Trinidad, the Spanish Main and return, calling at Plymouth instead of Southampton. This company also furnishes an inter-colonial service from Martinique, calling at Saint Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad, the Guianas and return.

The Canadian National Steamship Company operates a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana, touching at the same ports on the north bound trip. Freight steamers of the same line two of which also have passenger accommodation, arrive fortnightly from Canadian and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards this steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados.

The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provides a fortnightly freight service from Canadian ports. Freighters chartered by the Canadian Transport Company call here once a month from Vancouver, B.C.

The McCormick Steamship Corporation operates a monthly freight and passenger service sailing from British Columbia, San Francisco, via the Panama Canal to South American ports, returning via Barbados, Trinidad and other West Indian ports.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy) and the American Caribbean Line.

Ships of the Aluminum Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Gulf ports, Jamaica, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Barbados en route to Trinidad and British and Dutch Guiana. On the return journey these ships call at Trinidad and Jamaica.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for Waterworks and for all Government constructional work, the upkeep of all bridges, wharves, lighthouses, and Government buildings, including the military properties in the Garrison.

The roads are under separate control and are worked apart from the Public Works Department.

Works of importance in process of being carried out by the Department during the year were:—

(1) Work on the improvement of the water supply, the estimated cost of which is £142,000 is proceeding by the laying of mains, erection of public standpipes, fixing of fire hydrants, supply of water to public elementary schools, and the building of three reservoirs—one of 1¼ million gallons capacity, and two of 1 million gallons capacity. One of these was completed during the year 1937-8.

(2) Work on the building of a tuberculosis hospital for the parish of Saint Michael at a cost of £3,472 was completed; and work on the building of a tuberculosis hospital for the parish of Christ Church at an estimated cost of £1,100, was commenced.

The total number of free public standposts for the supply of water in use in the Colony as at the 31st March, 1938, was 617.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Superior Courts of the Island are presided over by a Chief Justice. There is an Assistant Court of Appeal, consisting of two Judges, which has jurisdiction both as a Court of first instance and as a Court of review. In its original jurisdiction this Court determines suits between £20 and £50 in amounts in cases arising out of contract, and between £10 and £50 in cases arising out of tort, and suits in equity not exceeding £500 in value. In its appellate jurisdiction, the Court reviews the decisions of the several Police Magistrates and of the Judges of the Petty Debt Courts. An appeal lies from the decisions of the Assistant Court of Appeal to the Court of Error, over which the Chief Justice presides.

There are six Police Magistrates, four of whom in the rural districts are also Judges of the Petty Debt Courts of those districts; while for the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown there is a separate Judge. The jurisdiction of the Petty Debt Court is limited to £20 in cases of contract and £20 in cases of tort.

The Juvenile Offenders Act, 1932 (No. 22), which came into force on the 1st September, 1932, establishes Courts for dealing with juvenile offenders.

The cost of maintaining legal departments during the year was £17,709.

Under the authority of Act No. 6 of 1929, Police Magistrates are authorized to allow time for the payment of fines or to allow payment by instalments. Except in special cases, as for instance, those against seamen intransit, the general practice is to allow time for the payment of fines.

Police.

The Police Force is composed of a Commissioner, a Deputy Commissioner, three Superintendents (one of whom is also Assistant Superintendent of Fire Brigade), three Assistant Superintendents and 556 non-commissioned officers and men. Of these, one Sergeant-Major and 43 men form the Harbour Police, and their duties are confined to the control of the Harbour.

A Band consisting of 22 non-commissioned officers and men and five cadets under the direction of a Bandmaster is attached to the Force.

The Commissioner is Commandant of the Local Forces and is also Superintendent of the Fire Brigade.

Fire Brigade.

The Fire Brigade consists of a foreman and 24 non-commissioned officers and firemen.

Prisons.

Glendairy Prison in the parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony and has cellular accommodation for 275 males and 125 females. Male prisoners are classified for the purpose of training and to minimize contamination. Instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, breadmaking and other crafts. Labour consists of stone quarrying, stonebreaking and the upkeep of Government lands outside the prison. Female prisoners do the cooking and clothes-washing for the whole prison.

The Medical Officer visits daily examining admissions and prescribing for the sick.

The Church of England Chaplain visits three times a week and holds a service on Sundays and Festivals, he is also responsible for the supervision of the schools.

Apart from a mild epidemic of gastro-intestinal troubles following overcrowding due to the disturbances of July, the general health of the prisoners during 1937 was good.

The following is the comparative statement for the last three years:—

	1935.	*1936.*	*1937.*
Total number of persons imprisoned ...	1,124	962	1,627
Sentenced to terms of one year or more ...	28	23	222
Daily average (males)	136	130	215
,, ,, (females)	29	19	33
Police Court convictions	9,931	9,912	8,897
Police Court convictions for praedial larceny	345	206	307
Convictions by Superior Court	63	52	375

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts.

The following is a list of the most important Acts passed during the period 1st April, 1937, to 31st March, 1938.

1937.

No. 12. Act relating to the issue of Government Currency Notes.

No. 15. Act to amalgamate the offices of Public Trustee, Provost Marshal and Official Assignee, and to make certain changes with respect to the staff of the Provost Marshal's Department.

No. 17. Act to amend the Master and Servant Act, 1891, the effect of which is to remove the penal sections contained in the Principal Act.

No. 22. Act to constitute a Commission to enquire into and report on certain matters connected with the disturbed conditions prevailing in the Island in July, 1937.

No. 26. Act to authorize the payment of pensions to certain persons employed in the public service of this Island. Under the provisions of this Act pensions may be paid to artisans, caretakers, cleaners, crews of harbour craft, district foremen, labourers and other public employees who are not members of the Civil Establishment.

No. 31. Act to provide for the taking of an annual Sugar Cane census.

No. 34. Act to make provision for the enforcement in this Island of judgments given in foreign countries which accord reciprocal treatment to judgments given in this Island, for facilitating the enforcement in foreign countries of judgments given in this Island, and for other purposes in connection with the matters aforesaid.

No. 44. Act to provide for seats being supplied for the use of shop assistants.

No. 47. Act to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1901. This Act came into operation on the 27th day of January, 1938, and it permits of the General Assembly of this Island being or continuing in force for a period not exceeding two years at any one time instead of one year, as has previously been the case.

No. 48. Act to provide for Old Age Pensions. This Act provides for the payment on certain conditions of old age pensions at a maximum rate of one shilling and sixpence per week to persons who have attained the age of seventy years and whose means, as calculated under the provisions of the Act, do not exceed four shillings per week.

No. 50. Act to regulate the production, marketing and export of Barbados Fancy Molasses. This Act makes permanent the provisions of a former temporary Act on the same lines enacted in each of the two preceding years.

No. 52. Act for the establishment of a Transport Board and to consolidate and amend the law relating to the registration, taxation and use of vehicles on Highways and for other matters in connection therewith.

No. 54. Act to amend the Police Act, 1908 (1908-2) as amended by the Police (Amendment) Act, 1924 (1924-34), by the Police (Amendment) Act, 1927 (1927-44), by the Police (Amendment) Act, 1935 (1935-10), by the Police (Amendment) Act, 1935 No. 2 (1935-57), and by the Police (Amendment) Act, 1936 (1936-2). This Act makes provision for an increase in the numbers of the officers and other ranks of the Police Force and in the scale of salaries of the officers of the Force.

1938.

No. 2. Act to amend the Prisons Act, 1890 (1890-18). This Act authorizes the use of firearms by officers having charge of prisoners, for the purpose of preventing escape or violent assault and for the purpose of preventing or suppressing mutiny.

Subsidiary Legislation.

Of the subsidiary legislation passed during the year, the following is considered to be of importance:—

Proclamations.

1. Proclaiming that Wednesday, the 9th of June, 1937, the day appointed for the celebration of the birthday of His Majesty the King shall be kept as a Bank Holiday.

2. Appointing the 22nd April, 1937, as the date on which the Additional Instructions issued to the Governor under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet bearing date the 22nd of February, 1937, shall come into operation.

3. Appointing the 22nd of April, 1937, as the date on which the Letters Patent bearing date at Westminster the 22nd of February, 1937, shall come into operation.

4. Appointing a day of supplication to Almighty God for deliverance from storm and other calamities.

5. Fixing date of operation of Matrimonial Causes Act, 1935.

Orders.

1. Fixing the prices which the Undertakers shall be entitled to charge for electricity.

2. The Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Order, 1937.

Regulations.

1. Parcel Post Service to Bahamas, Mexico, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Republic of Panama, and Republic of Honduras.

2. The Government Currency Notes Regulations, 1937.

3. The Textiles Quotas Regulations, 1937.

4. Volunteer (Service Pay) Regulations, 1937.

5. Barbados Fancy Molasses Production and Export Regulations, 1938.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Three private banks are operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capital of the first-named bank is £4,975,500, while in the case of the other banks the figures are $35,000,000 and $30,000,000, respectively.

The Government Savings Bank.

In addition there is a Government Savings Bank, in which, at the end of the year under review, there were 16,160 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £843,169. The value of the invested funds was £997,360. The figures for 1936 were, deposits £787,976, invested funds £937,587, and number of depositors 15,216. The number of depositors shows an increase of 944 and the total amount to their credit an increase of £55,193. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent., but since the 30th April, 1933, a limit of £300 was placed on new deposits in order to avoid a rush consequent on the reduction by the commercial banks of their rates of interest from 3 per cent. to 2 per cent. from the 1st May, 1933. The commercial banks have made a further reduction to 1½ per cent. in their rate of interest from the 1st December, 1935.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony. From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor. The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows:—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman *ex-officio*, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board. The net profit of the Bank for the year ended 31st May, 1937, after paying income tax, trade tax, government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan and salaries, etc., amounted to £2,592 12s. 1½d.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1937, was £241,990 as compared with £239,398 at the end of the previous financial year.

The expenditure for the year was £3,093 as compared with £3,106 for the previous year.

Loan and interest due thereon are a first lien and charge against any plantation in respect of which a loan is made.

Currency.

No changes have occurred in currency during the year, but preparations have been made for the issue of Government currency notes in one dollar and two dollar denominations with effect from the beginning of the financial year 1938-9. These notes are legal tender throughout the Colony.

Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The banks issue five-dollar notes equivalent to £1 0s. 10d., the exchange value being fixed at $4·80 to the pound sterling.

Weights and Measures.

The standard of weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the standard measure of capacity is less than the standard measure of capacity in the United Kingdom, the local standard being 231 cu. ins. to the gallon.

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years:—

	Revenue.	*Expenditure.*
	£	£
1933–4	510,270	490,909
1934–5	479,960	414,109
1935–6	530,644	463,147
1936–7	483,142	460,869
1937–8	528,278	546,274

Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which will in due course be transferred to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve fund set out hereunder, on the 31st March, 1938, was £190,051.

Special Funds.	£	*s.*	*d.*
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	77,008	8	10
Water Boat Renewal Fund...	16,985	6	7
Red Cross Fund	1,019	18	9
Public Officers Security Fund	12,968	7	0½
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	42,359	14	9
Reparation Payments Fund	4,604	16	0
	£254,946	11	11½

Revenue.

The Revenue for 1937-8 shows an increase of £45,136 over that of the previous year, the principal heads showing increases being Customs £20,606 and Post Office, £13,572. The decrease under all heads was £4,959, while the increase totalled £50,095.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1937-8 was £546,274, an increase of £85,405 as compared with the previous year. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the Heads "Police," "Education," "Medical," "Public Works," "Charges of Debt" and "Central Road Board." The expenditure under these heads was as follows:—

	Compared with 1936–7.		
	£		£
Police	51,018	an increase of	971
Education	61,491	an increase of	2,782
Medical	54,131	an increase of	5,372
Public Works	40,811	an increase of	80
Charges of Debt	21,473	an increase of	5,178
Central Road Board	26,950	an increase of	2,176
	£255,874		

The total expenditure on these six departments, £255,874, represents 55 per cent. of the total administration expenses.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the 31st March, 1938, was £442,220, the Sinking Fund on that date being £66,126 as compared with £442,220 and £55,060 respectively in 1937. The loan position and the operation of sinking funds at the end of March, 1938, were as follows:—

Name of Loan.	*Amount of Loan.*			*Amount outstanding.*			*Sinking Fund.*			*Date Redeemable.*	
	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	*s.*	*d.*	£	
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	14,677	10	2	1[illegible],000 6,000 20,000	1961 1963 1964
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000	0	0	90,000	0	0	7,316	2	8	25,000 65,000	1941–78 1941–78
General Local Loan Act, 1933 (No. 25) and Redemption Acts, 1933, (Nos. 26 and 46).	140,920	0	0	140,920	0	0	36,018	11	4		1944–64
Water Works Loan Act, 1935	155,500	0	0	155,500	0	0	5,452	4	7		1961
Education Loan Act, 1935–63	18,800	0	0	18,800	0	0	464	0	11		1956–66
	£442,220	0	0	£442,220	0	0	£63,928	9	8		

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The outstanding event of the year 1937 was the Coronation of Their Majesties King George the Sixth and Queen Elizabeth on the 12th of May. An Address of Loyalty to Their Majesties was passed by both Houses of the Legislature and transmitted through the Secretary of State for the Colonies. The representatives of this Colony who attended the Coronation were the Honourable Dr. John Hutson, O.B.E., Member of the Legislative Council, and His Honour Sir Harold Austin, O.B.E., Speaker of the House of Assembly, and they were accompanied by their wives. Lieutenant-Colonel W. Bowring, M.B.E., and Company-Sergeant-Major P. E. Johnson formed the contingent from the Barbados Local Forces. Representatives of the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides were given places along the route from Buckingham Palace to Westminster Abbey. The event was marked locally by celebrations which lasted for a week and were similar to those held at the time of King George the Fifth's Silver Jubilee. All sections of the community combined to make the rejoicings in this Island worthy of the occasion.

On the 22nd April, 1937, certain amendments to the Letters Patent and the Royal Instructions, dated the 22nd February, 1937, came into operation. The most important of the amendments was that which changed the term of office of Executive Councillors and of Legislative Councillors by substituting a limited tenure of office for an unlimited one. The normal period under the new Instructions was fixed at five years, renewable up to a period not exceeding fifteen years in all. As a result of a joint petition from the two branches of the Legislature the period of tenure of office is under further consideration.

The most regrettable occurrence in the Colony during the past year was the outbreak of lawlessness on the night of Monday, the 26th of July, which developed into such serious disturbances of the peace on the following day that armed forces had to be called out and, unfortunately, order was not restored without the loss of life and injury to persons. A Commission, under the Chairmanship of Sir George Deane, was appointed to enquire into the disturbances and their report was laid before the Legislature on the 16th of November. The following are some of the most important of the recommendations:—

The setting up of machinery for the determination of minimum wages and for the avoidance and settlement of disputes.

The relief of the burden on the landowner by the Central Government assuming responsibility for roads, sanitation and social services.

The investigation by a Royal Commission of the whole question of emigration and settlement throughout the West Indian Colonies with special regard to the necessity for finding a solution of the problem of over-population.

The improvement of housing conditions.

The provision of playing fields; and other recommendations dealing with the general welfare of the people.

H.M.S. *Apollo* of the America and West Indies Squadron visited the Island in July and again in August. The Cadet Training Ship *Vindictive* which has taken the place of the *Frobisher* visited the Island in March and stayed eight days. His Majesty's Canadian Training Sloop *Venture* also visited the Island and His Majesty's Surveying Ship *Challenger* spent some time here while carrying out a survey of Carlisle Bay and surrounding waters. The Island was visited by three warships and seven destroyers of the American Navy during the course of the year. During the spring of 1938 the *York, Dundee* and *Venture* of the America and West Indies Squadron visited the Island.

An Act was passed by the Legislature in November, 1937, providing for a biennial session of the Legislature to take effect from the 1938 Session.

Seawell Plantation in the Parish of Christ Church was purchased as a site for an aerodrome. The landing ground is now in process of preparation.

Funds have been provided by the Legislature for the introduction of a scheme of old age pensions and also for a nutrition scheme for school children.

APPENDIX

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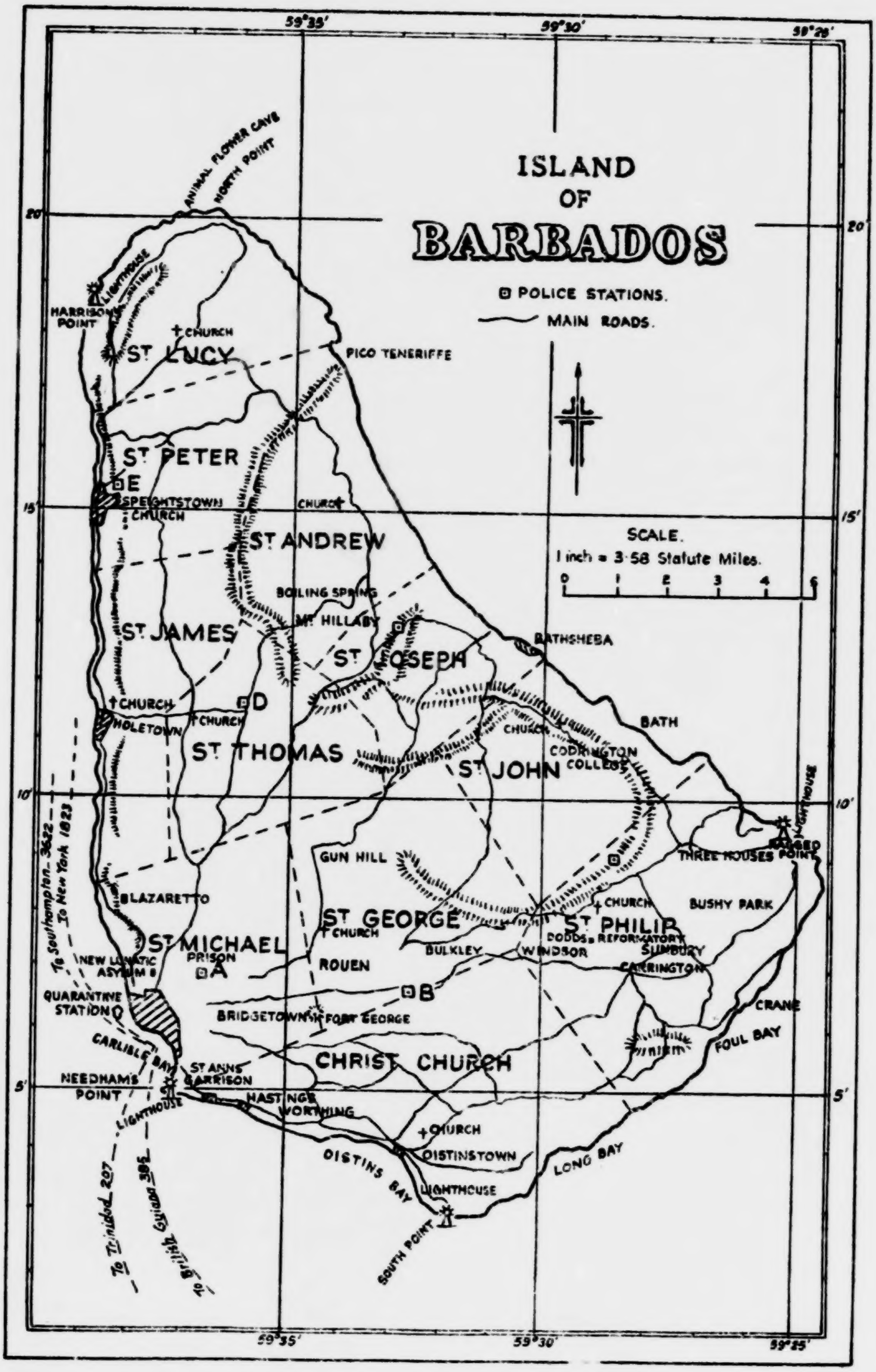
ISLAND OF BARBADOS
POLICE STATIONS.
MAIN ROADS.
SCALE.
1 inch = 3·58 Statute Miles.
0 1 2 3 4 5
59°35'
59°30'
59°25'
20'
15'
10'
5'
ANIMAL FLOWER CAVE
NORTH POINT
LIGHTHOUSE
HARRISONS POINT
CHURCH
ST LUCY
PICO TENERIFFE
ST PETER
E
SPEIGHTSTOWN
CHURCH
ST ANDREW
BOILING SPRING
MT HILLABY
ST JAMES
ST JOSEPH
BATHSHEBA
CHURCH
D
HOLETOWN
CHURCH
ST THOMAS
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CODRINGTON COLLEGE
BATH
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LIGHTHOUSE
RAGGED POINT
THREE HOUSES
GUN HILL
BLAZARETTO
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BUSHY PARK
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A
NEW LUNATIC ASYLUM
ROUEN
BULKLEY
WINDSOR
QUARANTINE STATION
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CEYLON
CYPRUS
FALKLAND ISLANDS
FEDERATED MALAY STATES
FIJI
THE GAMBIA
GIBRALTAR
GILBERT & ELLICE ISLANDS
GOLD COAST
GRENADA
HONG KONG
JAMAICA
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KEDAH
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BARBADOS, 1938-39

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ANNUAL REPORT ON THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE PEOPLE OF BARBADOS FOR 1938-39

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I.—GEOGRAPHY, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND HISTORY.

Barbados, the most easterly of the West Indian Islands, is situated in latitude 13° 4′ North and longitude 59° 37′ West. In latitude it compares with Madras or the Gambia, but the climate differs from both. The Island is triangular in shape and is 21 miles long by 14 miles across the widest part. It contains approximately 166 square miles, with a population at the end of 1938 of 193,082. It is approximately the size of the Isle of Wight and is said to resemble it in some respects.

Several theories, some extremely fantastic, to account for the name of Barbados have been put forward from time to time, but the one generally accepted is that the name—Los Barbados—was given by a Portuguese mariner who was the first European to visit the Island, the name being derived from the bearded fig trees which he observed on the Island in great numbers.

The first visit of Englishmen to Barbados is alleged to have taken place in 1605, when the *Olive Blossom* put in there on its way to Guiana, and the crew, finding that it was uninhabited, erected a cross and took possession of the Island in the name of King James.

The first settlement took place in February, 1627. A London merchant, Sir William Courteen, fitted out a colonizing expedition, which landed 80 settlers and founded Holetown in that year.

Letters Patent issued by King Charles I granted to the Earl of Carlisle proprietary rights over all the " Caribbee Islands " in which Barbados appears to have been included.

Later Letters Patent granted Barbados and three other islands to the Earl of Pembroke, in trust for Courteen, and a grant from King James I was also claimed by the Earl of Marlborough.

The disputes which followed were finally decided in 1629 in favour of the Earl of Carlisle, who had already taken forcible steps to secure possession of the Island.

In 1636 Lord Carlisle died, leaving his rights in Barbados and the Caribbee Islands in trust for the payment of his debts with remainder to his son, who in 1647 leased his rights to Lord Willoughby of Parham for 21 years. In 1650 Lord Willoughby assumed the Government of Barbados in the name of the King and caused an Act to be passed recognizing the rights of the King, Lord Carlisle and himself, but in 1652 the Island capitulated to a force despatched by the Commonwealth on terms providing for government by a Governor appointed by the Commonwealth and consequently the extinction of proprietary rule.

At the Restoration the various claims based or secured on the Carlisle Patent revived, but a return to the proprietary system was strongly opposed by the planters, whose titles to land were in many cases defective. After lengthy negotiations a settlement was arrived at based on the surrender of the Carlisle Patent to the Crown and the compensation of the various claims out of a fixed revenue provided by the Colony in return for the confirmation of local land titles. The financial terms of the settlement were laid down by an Order in Council allocating the future revenue of the Caribbee Islands, that is to say, Barbados and the Leeward Islands, to the satisfaction of the claims, after which it was to revert to the Crown. The revenue itself was provided by a 4½ per cent. duty on exports which was imposed by Acts passed by the Barbados Legislature in 1663, and by that of the Leeward Islands in 1664. This duty continued in force and was a constant source of grievance to the Colonies until 1838 when it was abolished by an Act of the Imperial Parliament.

Natural and climatic conditions give justification to the claim of Barbados to be the healthiest of all West Indian Islands. The Island is much patronized by residents in the neighbouring Colonies, and considerable numbers of visitors from northern climates find it an agreeable change. There is little variation in temperature, the range being generally from 69° to 90° F. and in the cool months—December to May—as low occasionally as 64°. The Island during this time gets the full benefit of the cool north-east trade winds. The hot and rainy season extends from June to November. Sir Charles Lucas in his "Historical Geography of the British Colonies" says, about Barbados:—

> "Lying far out to sea, its climate was better suited to Englishmen than that of the other parts of the western tropics . . . The history of the Island with its long generations of English inhabitants is the most striking exception to the rule that the tropics must be peopled by others than natives of Northern Europe."

Unlike most of the other West Indian Islands, Barbados has never been out of British possession.

The Island lies almost out of the track of hurricanes, although it is a matter of history that these have swept over the Island at far intervals, notably in 1780, 1831 and 1898, doing considerable damage. Earth tremors have been occasionally felt, but severe earthquake shocks have not occurred.

II.—GOVERNMENT.

Barbados possesses a representative Legislature but not full responsible government. The Crown retains only the right of veto on legislation, but the Secretary of State for the Colonies retains the appointment and control of the public officers, except the Colonial Treasurer, who is nominated annually by the House of Assembly and his appointment confirmed by the Governor-in-Executive Committee.

The Legislature consists of the Governor, a Legislative Council of nine members appointed by the King, and a House of Assembly of 24 members, elected biennially on a moderate franchise.

The House of Assembly was constituted as far back as 1639, being first summoned in that year by Governor Hawley, and the names of the members are on record in the Minutes. The Barbados House of Assembly is consequently, with the exception of the British House of Commons and the House of Assembly of Bermuda, the oldest legislative body in the Empire.

For electoral purposes the Island is divided into 12 constituencies, viz., the city of Bridgetown, and the 11 parishes of Saint Michael, Saint George, Christ Church, Saint Philip, Saint

John, Saint Joseph, Saint Thomas, Saint Andrew, Saint James, Saint Peter and Saint Lucy, each of which returns two members to the General Assembly. The qualifications of members and electors are regulated by the Representation of the People Act, 1901 (No. 2). The qualification of members is set out in section 2 of this Act and is briefly as follows:—

(1) Ownership of 30 acres of land, with a dwelling-house of the value of not less than £300; or

(2) Ownership of any real property of the absolute value of £1,500; or

(3) Beneficial interest in a property the rental value of which is not less than £120 per annum; or

(4) Receipt either personally or by one's wife of an annual income of not less than £200.

The qualification of voters is set out in section 3 of the Act and is briefly as follows:—

(1) Possession of land or freehold property of the annual value of not less than £5 or receipt of rents and profits in respect of such property for at least 12 months prior to claim to be registered; or

(2) Possession of land, house or place of business parochially assessed at £15 per annum; or

(3) Payment of taxes of not less than £2 per annum in respect of Bridgetown, and of not less than £1 per annum in respect of Parochial Constituencies; or

(4) Receipt of salary or income of not less than £50 per annum; or

(5) Recognition as a barrister, solicitor, physician or surgeon; or the holding of a degree of any university of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland or a testamur from Codrington College; or

(6) Occupation of a house rated at not less than £50 per annum and payment of rent of not less than £15 per annum.

The Ballot Act, 1931 (No. 9) regulates the procedure at elections of members to serve in the General Assembly and in the several Vestries of the Island.

The total number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls at the present time is 6,381, and is made up as follows:—

Bridgetown, 952; Saint Michael, 1,945; Christ Church, 1,116; Saint George, 295; Saint Philip, 297; Saint John, 206; Saint Joseph, 227; Saint Andrew, 269; Saint Peter, 230; Saint Lucy, 299; Saint James, 204; Saint Thomas, 341.

The total at the time of the last election—February, 1938—was 6,545.

The number of persons whose names are included in the electoral rolls bears a ratio of 7·5 per cent. to the total male population, or approximately 10·1 per cent. to the adult male population as shown by the last (1921) census returns.

The executive part of the Government is vested in the Executive Council, appointed by the Crown, and consists of the Governor, the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney General, *ex-officio,* and two other members.

The Executive Committee—appointed under the provisions of the Executive Committee Act, 1891 (No. 24)—consists of the members of the Executive Council, *ex-officio,* one member of the Legislative Council and four members of the House of Assembly, nominated sessionally by the Governor. This body introduces all money votes, prepares the Estimates and initiates all Government measures.

The Attorney General, if elected a member of the House of Assembly, introduces and takes charge of all Government measures in the House. He also serves on many Boards and Committees.

The Solicitor General is a part-time officer. He may be elected a member of the House of Assembly; he also usually serves on many Boards and Committees.

Local administration is in the hands of 11 Parish Boards or Vestries. Each Vestry is elected annually under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1901-2, and the Ballot Act, 1931-9. The Rector of the parish is *ex-officio* Chairman of the Vestry. The functions of the Vestry include the appointment of Guardians for the care of the sick and poor and for the supervision of almshouses, of Commissioners of Health for the control of sanitation, and of Highways Commissioners for the upkeep of roads. To provide funds for these purposes the Vestries levy rates on lands and houses, and taxes on trade, vehicles, draught animals, etc.

III.—POPULATION.

The population on the 31st of December, 1938, was estimated to be 193,082, 87,973 being males and 105,109 females. The increase over the estimated total for 1937 is 2,143 or 1·1 per cent. and is made up as follows:—

Natural increase, births exceeding deaths by	1,584
Immigration exceeding emigration by	559
	2,143

On the basis of the returns of the last census (1921) the population is made up as follows:—

	Per cent.
White	7
Black	71
Mixed	22

The following shows, with as reasonable a degree of accuracy as can be expected, the estimated numbers in each parish:—

Parish.	Estimated population.
Saint Michael	70,500
Christ Church	26,500
Saint George	14,500
Saint Philip	16,000
Saint John	10,500
Saint James	11,500
Saint Thomas	8,000
Saint Peter	10,000
Saint Lucy	8,500
Saint Joseph	8,500
Saint Andrew	8,500

The density per square mile for the whole island is 1,163.

Marriages.

There were 869 marriages performed during 1938; 607 by the Church of England, 94 by the Methodists, 16 by the Moravians, 16 by the Roman Catholics, 35 by civil authorities, and the remainder (101) by 19 other denominations.

The rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 9·02.

The percentage of illiteracy among those married continued to decrease: it was for 1938 11·04 as against 12·0 for 1937.

Births and Deaths.

The following are the figures for the last five years:—

Year.	Births.			Deaths.		
	No.	Rate per M.	Illegitimate percentage.	No.	Rate per M.	Percentage uncertified.
1934	5,380	29·44	57·42	4,176	23·04	2·8
1935	5,315	28·94	59·00	3,702	20·16	1·2
1936	5,933	31·80	59·00	3,459	18·54	1·5
1937	5,670	29·92	58·22	3,511	18·52	1·6
1938	5,327	27·30	59·00	3,743	19·38	1·3

Infant Mortality.

The infant mortality rate has increased from 217 per thousand live births last year to 221. The chief causes of infant mortality are infantile diarrhoea and enteritis, congenital debility and congenital syphilis.

Immigration and Emigration.

Each year of the past decade shows an increase of immigration over emigration. The increase in 1938 amounted to 559. The average increase for each of the past five years was approximately 798. During 1938 there were 9,733 immigrants as compared with 9,174 emigrants.

To provide an outlet for some of the surplus population a property at Vieux Fort, Saint Lucia, formerly owned by the Vieux Fort Company, was purchased in 1938 by this Government under the authority of Act 1938-19, and a Joint Stock Company with the Governor-in-Executive Committee as sole shareholders was formed to operate the Factory and to establish there a peasant settlement of Barbadians. The property consists of approximately 2,495 acres of arable land and 1,460 acres of other land, and there is a sugar factory capable of producing 2,000 tons of sugar in 15 weeks.

The settlement scheme which it is proposed to develop is one in which the land is divided into two units: one unit will be comprised of the factory and approximately 600 acres of arable land, and the other unit will consist of approximately 1,900 acres of arable land which will accommodate a maximum of 475 families. The holding allotted to each family will consist of 4 acres of arable land, 1 acre of other land and a house, and can be rented or purchased by the smallholder on an instalment basis.

The work of cultivation is steadily progressing and the manufacture of sugar has begun. The labour employed to date, in preliminary and preparatory work, has been mostly Saint Lucian and no Barbadian settlers have yet been sent.

IV.—HEALTH.

General, Principal Causes of Death, etc.

The climate is salubrious and semi-tropical. The maximum temperature varies between 82° Fahr. in the cool months and 90° Fahr. in the hot season, the minimum being between 69° Fahr. and 73° Fahr. The Island is a natural health resort.

Malaria made its appearance in the Island in October, 1927; but since the 17th of October, 1929, no new case has occurred, and no anopheline mosquito larvae have been found since January, 1930.

The causes of death are classified in accordance with the Intermediate International List of Causes of Deaths as adopted for use in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, some being further subdivided to meet local requirements.

The following are the principal diseases or groups of diseases responsible for the mortality:—

Causes.	*Total deaths.*
Syphilis	274*
Diarrhoea and enteritis	424†
Diseases of the heart	294
Diseases of arteries and veins	109
Old age	256
Nephritis	265
Pneumonia	238
Bronchitis	61
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	274
Congenital debility	234
Other diseases of early infancy	142
Tuberculosis	164
Pellagra	67
Cancer	173

* Of these 217 were under 5 years of age.
† Of these 379 were under 5 years of age.

Treatment of the Sick, Medical Assistance, etc.

The General Hospital is maintained by the Government and controlled by a Board of Directors. The surgical wards are excellently equipped and work of a very high order is done. Poor patients from any parish (including those suffering from typhoid fever but excluding other infectious diseases) are received and treated free. There are also pay wards of two grades attached. The resident staff consists of one medical superintendent and four house surgeons, a matron, an assistant matron, a tutor sister, a theatre sister, a pay ward sister and 83 local nurses. The visiting staff consists of three visiting surgeons, three assistant visiting surgeons, one ophthalmic surgeon, one assistant ophthalmic surgeon, one ear, nose and throat surgeon, one assistant ear, nose and throat surgeon, one dental surgeon, one radiologist, a masseuse and a bacteriologist and pathologist.

The Government also maintains a well-organized Mental Hospital and a Leper Hospital. Treatment on recognized modern lines is carried out at both institutions. Persons who were inmates of the Leper Hospital and have been discharged as cured are assisted from Government funds if found to be in need.

Each parish maintains an almshouse. These 11 almshouses, besides being places of refuge for the destitute poor, are in most, if not all, instances practically cottage hospitals. Isolation hospitals are also provided by each parish, except Saint Michael, and would be available in time of epidemic disease.

Tuberculosis wards are being erected at a few of the almshouses to provide for better treatment and isolation of patients.

In each parish there is a parochial medical officer (in Saint Michael two) whose duty it is to attend to the sick poor, either in their homes or at the almshouse, free or at reduced fees. Dispensaries for the cheap supply of medicine are maintained in seven of the 11 parishes; in the other four the parochial medical officer or a local druggist is paid to supply medicine free.

A baby welfare clinic is conducted voluntarily by a committee of ladies, assisted by a medical practitioner, and does very good work, but is hampered by lack of funds. Grants to it are made annually by the Government (£200, increased from £150) and by the Vestry of Saint Michael (£150).

Venereal disease clinics have been established at the General Hospital by the Government; and by the parochial authorities, with some assistance from the Government clinic, in Saint George, Saint John, Saint James, Saint Thomas, Saint Peter, Saint Lucy, Saint Joseph and Saint Andrew.

The names of 453 persons appeared on the Roll and Register kept under the Midwives and Nurses Registration Act; 117 as midwives and nurses, 264 as midwives only, and 72 as nurses only.

There is a well-equipped Bacteriological and Pathological Laboratory which is maintained by the Government.

The Sanitation Officer conducts a regular inspection of children at the elementary schools. He also holds courses of instruction for sanitary inspectors to enable them to sit for the Examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Organization.

The organization for public health work consists of a Chief Medical Officer, a Sanitation Officer, the General Board of Health, and 11 Boards of Commissioners of Health (one for each parish). The Boards are appointed annually. The Port Health Officer and his assistant are responsible for all quarantine measures.

The General Board of Health employs six inspectors for general work throughout the Island and the Boards of Commissioners of Health employ 69, of whom 25 are in the parish of Saint Michael and 11 in Christ Church. Public measures are carried out by 11 independent Boards of Commissioners of Health, two of which have medical advisers equivalent to a Medical Officer of Health. Their activities can be co-ordinated by the General Board of Health to a limited extent by invitation.

Barbados is a party to the West Indian Inter-colonial Sanitary Convention which regulates quarantine procedure among the British West Indies, excluding Jamaica and British Guiana. The port of Bridgetown has not the necessary organization or equipment to enable Barbados to adhere to the International Sanitary Convention (Paris).

No examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute was held in the West Indies in 1938. The examinations will be held in British Guiana and Trinidad during the first and latter part of the year 1939.

Drainage Works, etc.

There are very few swampy places in Barbados; no drainage work was undertaken during the year.

V.—HOUSING.

Wage-earners.

The general standard of sanitary arrangements of the cottages of the wage-earning population and peasant proprietors is very low. These cottages, almost invariably constructed of wood with shingled roofs, are small and generally much overcrowded.

About 68 per cent. of the entire population of the Island live in cottages of less than three rooms; the kitchen, if there is one, or other arrangements for cooking, being separate. Very few are provided with sanitary arrangements which can be considered even moderately satisfactory. The letting separately of rooms in a building is not extensively practised except in certain parts of Bridgetown. Labourers on plantations and in factories live near the estates in small detached cottages often owned by themselves, but on rented land. Frequent inspections and the enforcement of the sanitary laws are the means relied on for dealing with the primitive sanitary arrangements in the slum areas. About 75 per cent. of the occupants own the cottages or houses in which they live, but few own the land on which the buildings stand.

A Housing Board has been established under the provisions of the Bridgetown Housing Act, 1936 (No. 61). The Board, after careful examination of existing conditions, submitted a scheme in November, 1938, for the approval and sanction of the Legislature.

Better class of houses, etc.

The better class of house is well constructed and is usually supplied with a water-borne system of sewage disposal with which little, if any, fault can be found. These houses are also in almost every case connected with the Government waterworks system which furnishes a pure and continuous piped supply. There are standposts at which good drinking water can be obtained free of charge throughout the Island. It is rare that any dwelling is situated further than half-a-mile from a stand post.

VI.—NATURAL RESOURCES.

Barbados contains an area of about 106,000 acres, of which 68,000 acres are under arable cultivation. The remaining area not taken up by roads or houses is too shallow for arable cultivation and is planted in sour grass (*Andropogon pertusus*).

Of the 68,000 acres of arable land, 52,000 acres are cultivated by plantations and the remainder by small-holders.

The following table shows the changes in the ownership of land during the past decade:

Size of holding Acres.	*Number of holdings*		*Increase.*	*Decrease*
	1929	1939		
Over 500	9	6	—	3
100–500	210	200	—	10
20–100	297	74	—	223
5–20	308	421	113	—
3–5	445	517	72	—
1–3	3,387	3,905	518	—
Less than 1	13,899	13,962	63	—
Total	18,555	19,085	766	236

The main exportable products of the Island are dark crystal sugar, muscovado sugar, fancy molasses, choice molasses and vacuum pan molasses, all of which are products of the sugar-cane, and sea island cotton.

The sugar-cane crop reaped in 1938 totalled the equivalent of 111,414 tons of sugar and was made up as follows:—

	Tons.
Dark Crystal Sugar	86,370
Muscovado Sugar	2,748
Fancy Molasses	22,296
Total	111,414

347,350 wine gallons of choice molasses, which is a by-product of muscovado sugar manufacture, and 1,589,259 wine gallons of vacuum pan molasses, which is a by-product of dark crystal sugar manufacture, were exported during 1938.

There were 32,261 acres of cane reaped by plantations in 1938, and it is estimated that 7,000 acres of cane were reaped by small holders.

The local consumption of sugar is estimated at about 7,000 tons; the remaining production of sugar and molasses is exported.

There were 33 acres of sea island cotton reaped in 1938, which produced 3,253 lb. of lint and 9,772 lb. of seed. All of the cotton lint is exported; the seed is ground locally, the extracted oil being used as a cooking oil and the residue as a stockfeed.

There are 18,805 holdings of less than 30 acres occupied by peasants. These small holders grow sugar-cane as their principal cash crop, but are now being encouraged to grow arrowroot, ginger, vegetables and other " minor " crops which are more lucrative than sugar-cane at present prices.

VII.—COMMERCE.

The trade figures for the year 1938 show a decrease as compared with those of the previous year. The decrease of £133,749 in the value of imports is due mainly to the smaller sugar crop reaped and exported.

Large importation of foodstuffs continues and is essential to meet the requirements of the dense population of the Island. Ground provisions are produced locally, but it is impracticable for climatic and other reasons for the Island to produce those items which constitute the staple foods of its inhabitants, viz., wheat-flour, rice, salted fish and meat.

There are also substantial importations of lumber and cotton piece-goods.

The most important domestic exports are Sugar and Molasses, the export values of which represent approximately 56 per cent. and 41 per cent. of the total value of domestic exports respectively during 1938.

In spite of export limitations, there was a decline in the price of sugar during 1938, due to the lessened demand brought about by unsettled conditions, principally in the Far East. This Colony fell short of the export quota by approximately 10,606 tons as a result of adverse weather conditions.

The Fancy Molasses Control and Marketing Board continued to regulate the production and export of fancy molasses during the year.

A large transhipment business is carried on in Barbados, which forms a convenient base for the distribution of cargo to other West Indian islands. Apart from re-exports of goods actually imported into the Colony, 193,233 packages of intransit cargo were dealt with in 1938.

The total value of imports, of domestic exports and re-exports for the last five years is shown in the following table:—

Year.	*Imports.*	*Domestic Exports.*	*Re-exports.*
	£	£	£
1934	1,914,554	1,342,986	136,291
1935	1,840,783	999,726	135,410
1936	2,004,484	1,355,809	137,526
1937	2,220,650	1,498,341	148,368
1938	2,086,901	1,218,379	135,576

It will be seen from the figures given above that the visible adverse balance for the year 1938 was £732,946. The large excess of imports over exports is an invariable feature of the trade of the Island and is balanced by interest received on capital invested abroad, remittances from Barbadians who have settled overseas and by tourist traffic.

The following figures show the percentage of the value of total imports provided by the British Empire and foreign countries, and the principal supplying countries, for the last five years:—

	1934. Per cent.	*1935.* Per cent.	*1936.* Per cent.	*1937.* Per cent.	*1938.* Per cent.
(*a*) British Empire	74·7	73·9	75·3	73·1	71·4
Foreign Countries ...	25·3	26·1	24·7	26·9	28·6
(*b*) Principal Supplying Countries:—					
United Kingdom ...	42·3	40·9	42·7	41·2	40·7
Canada	14·4	14·1	14·1	14·5	13·1
United States of America	12·9	11·7	10·4	11·3	11·8

The United Kingdom continues to be the principal country of origin of imports into the Colony.

The percentage of the value of domestic exports to the British Empire, foreign countries and the principal countries of destination for the last five years is as follows:—

	1934. Per cent.	*1935.* Per cent.	*1936.* Per cent.	*1937.* Per cent.	*1938.* Per cent.
(*a*) British Empire	94·6	89·9	93·0	91·7	92·7
Foreign Countries ...	5·4	10·1	7·0	8·3	7·3
(*b*) Principal countries of destination:—					
United Kingdom ...	12.8	3·2	32·2	43·7	46·6
Canada	76·0	79·0	56·2	45·0	41·6
Newfoundland ...	3·3	5·2	2·6	1·7	2·7
United States of America	4·9	9·3	6·5	8·1	7·0

Reference to the above table shows that the United Kingdom has displaced Canada as the largest purchaser of domestic exports, having taken in 1938 46·6 per cent., Canada being next with 41·6 per cent.

The values and quantities of the principal imports (other than bullion and specie) for the last two years, and the principal sources of supply, are shown below:—

Article.		*1937.*	*1938.*	*Principal sources of supply.*
Apparel — other than Socks and Stockings.	value £	45,040	45,069	Japan, United Kingdom, U.S.A., Hong Kong.
Boots and Shoes ...	prs.	392,220	226,090	United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Canada.
	value £	45,305	35,456	
Cotton Piece Goods ...	sq. yd.	2,888,224	3,302,286	United Kingdom.
	value £	72,045	80,419	
Cotton Manufactures other than Apparel.	value £	69,698	58,667	United Kingdom.
Bags and Sacks—empty.	No.	1,050,718	967,112	India.
	value £	23,115	20,790	
Butter	lb.	525,865	643,999	France, United Kingdom, Eire, Northern Ireland, New Zealand.
	value £	32,866	40,250	
Cornmeal	bags	24,786	25,264	U.S.A.
	value £	18,589	20,212	
Electrical Apparatus ...	value £	54,048	36,056	United Kingdom, U.S.A.
Fish, dried, salted or smoked.	qtl.	48,252	50,039	Newfoundland, Canada.
	value £	63,934	55,043	
Flour	bags	78,468	85,352	(1937) Canada, United Kingdom; (1938) United Kingdom, Canada.
	value £	94,162	93,887	
Hardware	value £	39,027	37,999	United Kingdom, U.S.A., Germany.
Machinery for the manufacture of Sugar.	value £	71,332	59,823	United Kingdom.
Manures and Fertilisers	tons	10,583	11,556	United Kingdom, Germany.
	value £	94,984	108,399	
Meat :—				
Beef Salted ...	lb.	1,338,145	1,589,691	Argentine, United Kingdom.
	value £	23,417	27,024	
Pork Salted ...	lb.	1,795,650	1,878,325	Canada, Argentine, U.S.A.
	value £	35,913	35,689	
Bacon and Hams ...	lb.	374,151	310,173	Argentine, United Kingdom.
	value £	18,707	15,509	
Motor Cars	No.	332	382	United Kingdom, Canada.
	value £	46,312	54,996	
Motor Spirit	gal.	1,508,513	1,427,764	Trinidad.
	value £	40,855	38,668	
Oilmeal	lb.	10,715,229	9,568,177	U.S.A.
	value £	38,842	38,272	
Rice	lb.	20,845,470	20,372,276	India, British Guiana.
	value £	92,067	91,678	

Article.		*1937.*	*1938.*	*Principal sources of supply.*
Wood and Timber:—				
Pitch Pine	ft.	2,715,089	2,107,682	U.S.A., Canada.
	value £	34,127	26,331	
Other kinds (including Douglas Fir, White Pine, etc.)	ft.	7,676,767	4,696,218	Canada.
	value £	65,711	34,366	

The quantities and values of the principal domestic exports for the last two years are as follows:—

		1937.	*1938.*
Sugar	tons	100,806	80,912
	value £	911,255	683,099
Molasses	gal.	10,077,390	8,569,054
	value £	554,889	505,977
Rum	gal.	108,217	105,047
	value £	10,223	9,848
Cotton	lb.	10,841	4,049
	value £	747	233

In the year 1933 the quantity of rum exported amounted to 41,926 gallons. The figures given above for 1937 and 1938 show that a marked improvement has taken place in the export trade in this commodity.

The following figures show the values and quantities of the principal re-exports (other than bullion and specie) for the last two years:—

Article.		*1937.*	*1938.*
Apparel	value £	3,950	1,715
Cotton Piece Goods	sq. yd.	413,754	296,937
	value £	7,972	5,597
Cotton Manufactures other than Apparel	value £	39,446	35,594
Bags and Sacks—empty	No.	225,780	208,449
	value £	5,115	4,616
Butter and Butter Substitutes:—			
Butter	lb.	50,245	32,100
	value £	3,235	2,066
Margarine	lb.	35,416	23,753
	value £	911	612
Fish, dried, salted or smoked	qtl.	13,378	14,957
	value £	18,258	16,946
Flour	bags	2,455	2,310
	value £	3,034	2,617
Rice	lb.	232,164	449,245
	value £	1,056	2,082
Oil Edible	gal.	27,985	35,306
	value £	3,243	3,636

Most of the re-exports go to the British West Indies and British Guiana.

The imports and exports of bullion and coin and notes for the last five years are as follows:—

IMPORTS.

Year.	*Gold.*	*Silver.*	*Copper.*	*Notes.*
	£	£	£	£
1934	—	1,145	500	72
1935	—	1,150	—	76
1936	—	—	300	73
1937	—	500	490	425
1938	—	15,983	250	224

EXPORTS.

Year.	*Gold.*	*Silver.*	*Copper.*	*Notes.*
	£	£	£	£
1934	543	277	—	—
1935	2,185	80	729	16
1936	1,956	5,450	—	—
1937	1,619	100	275	3
1938	200	4,457	35	—

Tourist Traffic.

The advantages of Barbados as a health resort are becoming better known each year. The Publicity Committee, which receives a grant of £500 per annum from Government in addition to financial support from the trading community, has appointed representatives in the United Kingdom and the Dominion of Canada and New York. For the convenience of visitors there is an Information Bureau at the Customs Landing Warehouse.

The number of tourists who visited the Colony during the year 1938 was 8,295 as compared with 6,014 in 1937. Of these 7,229 arrived in 18 tourist ships carrying out organized cruises to the West Indies and 1,066 were passengers who booked for the round trip in passenger ships which call at Barbados regularly throughout the year. The following table shows the tourist traffic during the past three years:—

Year.	*Tourists Ships.*		*Total Tourists.*
	No.	*Passengers.*	
1936	10	4,407	5,482
1937	13	5,125	6,014
1938	18	7,229	8,295

VIII.—LABOUR.

Supply has always exceeded demand in every department of labour in the Island. The work of cutting the Panama Canal helped considerably to relieve unemployment at that time, as did migration to Cuba when high prices for sugar prevailed. Opportunities for employment in Canada and the United States of America have latterly been very much restricted.

No census has been taken since 1921. The census report of that year gives the average numbers of persons employed in the principal industries as follows:—

Agriculture	34,157
Industrial, including manufactures, building, etc. ...	23,682
Commerce	13,169
Public Works	1,122

At the end of 1938 it was estimated that 37,500 persons were employed on plantations and that the number employed at any one time was 18,574. It is difficult to estimate the number employed by the peasant proprietor class.

The crop season begins early in February and lasts from 12 to 16 weeks, according to the size of crop, and during that time there is a substantial increase in employment and in the amount of money in circulation.

Engineering and mechanical work has very much improved and openings at the foundries and garages are eagerly sought. The construction of water reservoirs and other public works has given some additional employment.

The Labour (Minimum Wage) Act, 1938-18, came into operation on the 6th of May, 1938. Section 3 provides for the appointment of Advisory Boards. On the 17th of February, 1939, the Governor appointed a Cane-Cutters Wages Committee to consider and make recommendations for the adjustment of the price to be paid to cane-cutters in respect of the present crop; an agreement was arrived at and the prices recommended were published and to a large extent adopted. An unofficial Manual Labour Wages Committee was also formed and is now sitting.

The Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Act, 1938-42, came into operation on the 13th of July, 1938. This Act is designed to carry out certain Conventions adopted by the International Labour Conference.

The Labour Officer Act, 1938-44, came into operation on the 3rd of August, 1938, and provides for the appointment of a Labour Officer. Section 3 defines his duties and section 4 empowers the Governor-in-Executive Committee to make rules and regulations for the better carrying into effect of the provisions thereof. Provision is made in the estimates for this office.

The Recruiting of Workers Act, 1938-59, came into operation on the 30th of December, 1938. This Act carries out the terms of the Convention adopted by the International Labour Conference in June, 1936.

The following Bills are now before the House of Assembly:—

(1) Bill relating to Trade Unions; and

(2) Bill to provide compensation to be paid to persons injured in the course of their employment.

During the five years since the Employment Agency was established 7,412 persons have been registered at different times as requiring employment. The Agency has helped to provide the supply of labour required for various schemes towards which assistance has been granted from the Colonial Development Fund and for the work of erection and enlargement of schools under the Education Loan Acts. It has kept registered applicants in touch with prospective employers, and up to the 31st of March, 1939, it has been able to assist 2,563 persons in obtaining employment. Of this number about half have been placed in employment on more than one occasion.

The following figures give some indication of the activities of the Employment Agency during each month of the year 1938-9:—

STATISTICS RELATING TO UNEMPLOYMENT DURING THE YEAR 1938–39

Month.	*Number of unemployed persons on the registers as applicants for employment at the end of the month.*	*Number of applications for labour received by the Agency and remaining unfilled at the end of the month.*	*Total number of applications for employment registered during the month.*	*Number of vacancies notified by employers during the month.*	*Number of vacancies filled during the month.*
ril ...	3,640	31	252	111	80
y ...	3,805	16	270	121	105
ne ...	3,969	35	290	161	126
y ...	4,043	6	150	80	74
gust ...	4,102	8	120	69	61
tember ...	4,137	7	103	75	68
tober ...	4,135	12	90	95	83
vember ...	4,133	8	94	88	80
cember ...	4,132	13	80	115	102
uary ...	4,149	6	90	79	73
ruary ...	4,166	6	88	77	71
rch ...	4,179	7	98	92	85

IX.—WAGES AND COST OF LIVING.

Wages.

The average rates of wages paid to estate labourers are:—men, 1s. 6d. to 2s. per day; women, 10d. to 1s. 3d. per day; youths, 8d. to 1s. per day. These labourers generally live in houses which they own, but on land belonging to the estates. In the purchase and repair of their houses they receive assistance from their employers who deduct the amounts advanced in instalments from their wages. They pay a small weekly rent for the plots on which their houses are situated.

The activities of the port of Bridgetown furnish employment for a large number of casual labourers. The average wages are as follows:—a lighter crew of four men receive from £1 1s. 7½d. to £1 10s. 7½d. per trip according to the size of the lighter when handling general cargo, and from £1 6s. 8d. to £1 13s. 11½d. per trip when handling a cargo of coal. Ships' labourers for general cargo are paid 8s. 4d. each per weekday and 1s. per hour for overtime; on Sundays and Bank Holidays they are paid 12s. 6d. each per day with overtime at the rate of 1s. 3d. per hour; for coal they are paid from 8s. 4d. to 10s. each per week day, and 12s. 6d. each per day on Sundays and Bank Holidays. In each case overtime is at the rate of 1s. 3d. per hour. For molasses they are paid 8s. 4d. each per weekday with overtime at the rate of 1s. per hour. On Sundays and Bank Holidays they are paid 12s. 6d. each per day with overtime at the rate of 1s. 3d. per hour. In steamers' warehouses permanent labourers are paid from £1 5s. to £1 9s. 2d. per week; casual labourers from 4s. 7d. to 5s. 6d. per day. Overtime is at the rate of 10d. per hour. On Sundays and bank holidays they receive 10d. per hour. Women engaged in stowing coal in the coal yards are paid 2s. 1d. per day, a 25 per cent. increase on the rate for the year 1937-8. Boatmen engaged in attending on the loading or discharging of steamers are paid at the rate of 5s. per day with overtime at the rate of 9d. per hour.

The wages of artisans (carpenters, masons and mechanics) are:—foremen from 4s. 2d. to 6s. 3d. per day; others from 3s. to 4s. per day.

Domestic servants in the employ of persons of the upper class are paid wages at the following rates per week:—

Butler	10s. to 15s.
Parlour Maid	7s. to 8s.
Housemaid	6s. to 8s.
Nurse	6s. to 10s.
Cook	8s. to 12s. 6d.
*Chauffeur	18s. to 26s.
Gardener	8s. to 10s.
Laundress	6s. to 8s.

In the homes of the middle class, an average wage of 12s. 6d. to £1 5s. per month is paid with or without food as the case may be.

Fishermen are recruited from the agricultural class. Some own their boats, and others use the boats of private owners and are given a percentage of the catch.

In the Government clerical service salaries range from £50 per annum for junior cadets to £400 for first class clerks. Heads of Departments, magistrates and judges receive salaries varying from £500 to £600; the salaries of the higher legal and other posts range from £1,000 to £1,200.

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* Chauffeurs are supplied with uniforms and money allowance when out at meal hours.

Police constables are paid from £70 per annum for third-class constables to £135 per annum for sergeants; prison warders from £75 to £125 per annum, chief warder £200 per annum; prison matrons from £45 to £90 per annum, chief matron £150 per annum.

Attendants at the Government Industrial Schools, Mental Hospital and Leper Asylum receive from £40 to £100 per annum for males and £30 to £70 for females; head male attendants from £150 to £200 per annum; head female attendants from £90 to £150 per annum.

Postmen receive from £45 to £65 per annum.

In the Public Works Department the following scales of wages are paid:—

I. *General Works.*—Artisans, 3s. to 4s. per day; labourers, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 6d. per day.

II. *Waterworks.*—Plumbers, 17s. 6d. to 35s. per week; jointers, 15s. per week; tap repairers, 14s. to 17s. per week; district foremen, 16s. 8d. to £1 5s. per week; engine drivers, 3s. to 5s. per day; firemen 2s. 6d. per day; labourers, men, 1s. 9d. to 2s. 6d. per day; women, 1s. to 1s. 3d. per day.

The employees of the *Central Road Board* are paid as follows:—Road overseers, 3s. 9d. to 7s. 6d. per day; roller drivers and mechanics, 4s. 6d. to 5s. per day; artisans, 3s. to 4s. 2d. per day, and by task; labourers, 1s. to 2s. 3½d. per day; watchmen, 12s. 6d. per week.

Cost of Living.

The ordinary prices of necessary commodities are as follows:—

Cornmeal	1½d. per lb.
Sugar (white)	2d. per lb.
Firewood	2s. 6d. per 100 lb.
Milk (condensed)	3d. to 5d. per tin.
Milk (fresh)	2d. to 2½d. per pint.
Rice	1d. to 1½d. per lb.
Beef (salt)	5d. to 6d. per lb.
Beef (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Pork (salt)	8d. per lb.
Pork (fresh)	6d. to 9d. per lb.
Mutton (fresh)	1s. to 1s. 3d. per lb.
Flour	1½d. to 2d. per lb.
Salmon	6d. to 1s. 3d. per tin.
Fish (fresh)	8d. to 1s. per lb.
Fish (salt)	2d. to 8d. per lb.
Grain (whole peas)	2d. per pint.
Grain (split peas)	2d. per pint.
Tea	1s. 8d. to 3s. 4d. per lb.
Margarine	10d. to 1s. per lb.
Coffee (grain)	5d. to 8d. per lb.
Coffee (ground)	1s. to 1s. 8d. per lb.
Kerosene Oil	1½d. to 2d. per pint.
Soap (household)	5d. to 8d. per bar.
Cocoa	8d. to 1s. per lb.

Bread (white)	3½d. to 4d. per lb.
Butter (fresh)	2s. per lb.
Cheese	1s. 6d. per lb.
Eggs	1s. 3d. per doz.

Partly-furnished quarters are provided for the Colonial Secretary and unfurnished quarters for the Director of Agriculture, the Commissioner of Police, and a few other officials, free of rent. Head teachers at the principal schools and, in some instances, unmarried teachers are also provided with free quarters.

The cost of accommodation, including meals, at the principal hotels is from 12s. 6d. a day upwards. Private board and lodging is sometimes obtainable at about £12 per month. Laundry charges in the case of an unmarried officer amount to about £1 10s. a month, and transport to about £5 a month. These figures apply to officers appointed from abroad; local officers can, of course, live more cheaply. Unfurnished or furnished houses in residential districts are not readily obtainable; the normal rent of the former is about £100 a year and of the latter about £150 a year.

The cost of living for the labouring classes is moderate. The price of clothing has decreased during recent years. The staple diet of the labourers is rice, flour, sugar, cornmeal; local crops such as sweet potatoes, yams, cassava and eddoes; fresh and salted fish, pickled pork, beef, margarine, cotton seed oil, milk, eggs, vegetables and fruit.

X.—EDUCATION AND WELFARE INSTITUTIONS.

Education.

The schools of the Island, though largely assisted and, in the case of the elementary schools, entirely maintained by Government grants, are not Government schools in the ordinary sense. They are, however, controlled by a Board of Education consisting of nine persons appointed by the Governor, of whom five must be members of the Legislature, and three persons with educational experience. The inspectors of schools and all save one of the office staff are appointed by the Board. Each elementary school is under the direction of a local committee consisting of the clergyman of the district or of the congregation to which the school is attached, and two others nominated by the Board, but all appointments to the staff must be approved by the Education Board. Contributions towards the maintenance of elementary school buildings are made from parochial funds.

There are three grades of schools recognized by the Board, viz., elementary, of which there were 126 in 1938; second-grade, eight in number, five for boys and three for girls; and three first-grade schools. Second-grade schools differ from first-grade by their lower scale of fees and by the fact that the teaching does not aim higher than the standard of the Cambridge Local School Certificate Examination. In the first-grade schools the scope of teaching is of a standard sufficient to enable boys to sit for open scholarships at English Universities. The Cambridge Junior Local Certificate Examination is also taken by pupils of both second-grade and first-grade schools as a test of the work of the schools and in lieu of inspection.

In the elementary schools the average enrolment for 1938 was 27,168 and the average attendance 20,204; an increase of 771 and 622 respectively as compared with the figures for 1937.

No additions have been made during the year to the number of second-grade schools. The average total attendance at the five boys' second-grade schools for 1938 was 512 and at the three girls' second-grade schools 373.

The three first-grade schools are Harrison College and the Lodge School for boys, and Queen's College for girls. The attendance at Harrison College and Queen's College for 1938 was 268 and 184 respectively. The Lodge School in Saint John's parish, with an attendance of 151, is the only school coming within the scope of the education system at which boarders are accommodated. There is, however, at Saint John also a school for girls, the Codrington High School, which accommodates boarders. This school is attended by a number of girls from the various islands of the West Indies. It is a well-conducted private institution.

Codrington College, founded in 1710 under the will of General Christopher Codrington, who was born in Barbados, is under the control of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel and is affiliated to the University of Durham. Its students are admissible to all Degrees, Licences, and academical ranks in the several faculties of that University. The College staff consists of a Principal and two Professors, who lecture to a number of students varying from 15 to 20. The Government provides at the College two scholarships annually to the value of £40 per annum and tenable for three years. Most of the College buildings were destroyed by fire in April, 1926, but they have been restored and were re-opened in June, 1931. The Legislature voted a sum of £5,000 towards the cost of restoration.

The total grant for educational purposes, exclusive of the cost of the Government Industrial School for boys and the Reformatory for girls, in 1938 was £76,725, of which £1,813 was the cost of office staff; £11,350 grants to first-grade and second-grade schools; £1,330 for university education; £50,852 for elementary schools; £10,397 for the supply of milk and biscuits to elementary school children; and the remainder for incidental expenses.

School gardens are cultivated at most of the elementary schools; and at the Local Agricultural Exhibition, held annually by the Department of Science and Agriculture for peasant proprietors and school children, there is generally a large display of exhibits from these schools. Carpentry classes are under instruction in 20 schools, and 75 schools provide instruction in other forms of handwork, such as basket-making, fibre-work and brush-making. There are cooking classes at 19 girls' schools, as well as two classes for the instruction of teachers in domestic science. Needlework is taught in all girls' schools. Nearly every rural school has a school garden.

Under the trade apprenticeship bursaries system, prescribed by the Apprenticeship Bursaries Act, 1924 (No. 31), ten apprentices completed their apprenticeship period of five years and the Education Board has issued to them certificates of competence as journeymen tradesmen. The course of training lasts from three to five years according to the trade chosen.

Under the bursaries system the training of apprentices is confined to placing them where they can assist men who are engaged in work themselves, and it is not as yet supplemented by special instruction in theory and drawing, etc. Masters and apprentices are paid allowances varying from £4 to £8 15s. a year from public funds.

The Rawle Training Institute for training elementary teachers is carried on in conjunction with Codrington College. There were six male and six female teachers undergoing training during the year; and since its establishment in 1912, 153 teachers (85 male and 68 female) have passed through the Institute. Of these, 123 (61 male and 62 female) are serving in the Colony. The Institute receives an annual grant of £600 from the Government. The question of creating more ample means for the training of teachers is occupying the attention of the Board of Education.

An Education Loan Act has been passed by the Legislature authorizing the raising of a loan of £80,000 to be expended on erecting new school buildings and a training college for teachers, and on enlarging the existing buildings, for primary and secondary education. Seven new schools have been erected and 28 enlarged and repaired. Work on this scheme is still progressing.

There are 122 boys and 22 girls at the industrial schools. The regular elementary school curriculum is adhered to and, in addition, boys are instructed in carpentry, masonry, tailoring, horticulture and the care of animals and general agriculture; and the girls are taught sewing, laundry work, cooking, simple gardening and fancy needlework (optional).

There is a brass band at the boys' school. The usual school games are encouraged. Generally speaking, the boys and girls enjoy excellent health. Medical supervision is provided. The staffs of the schools are responsible for the after-care of discharged boys and girls.

Welfare Institutions.

It is the special duty of the Vestry of each parish to provide for the aged, sick and poor, under the authority of the Poor Relief Act, 1892-2. Out-door relief is granted and almshouses (which are for practical purposes equivalent to cottage hospitals) are maintained in each parish. It is one of the functions of the Poor Law Board to see that the Vestries perform their duties in this respect.

The Old Age Pension Act, 1937-48, came into operation during the year. Every person who attains the age of 70 years and fulfils certain unexacting statutory conditions is entitled to receive a sum not exceeding 1s. 6d. per week. The sum of £9,772 was paid to pensioners from the 28th of May, 1938, to the 31st of March, 1939; and the number on the roll at the latter date was 4,095. The sum of £16,500 is provided for the year 1939-40, of which £1,500 is the estimated cost of administration.

There are 191 Friendly Societies on the Register. These societies provide their members with a Christmas bonus and relief in sickness and assist in paying the funeral expenses of members and their dependants. Membership approximates to 55,000, but a large number belong to more than one Society; dependants number about 128,000; and total contributions average £70,000. A half-yearly report is made by the Registrar of Friendly Societies who is one of the Judges of the Assistant Court of Appeal. By a recent Act (1939-1) the auditing of the accounts of these societies has been transferred to the Auditor General.

In addition, there are several private institutions, viz.: the Goodridge Home, the Ladies' Association for the Indigent Sick and Infirm, the Almair Home, the Old Men's Home, the St. Paul's Home, the Bessie Yearwood Home (for orphans) and the Daily Meal School for children, which are supported by voluntary contributions.

A Women's Social Welfare League and its subsidiaries, namely, the Baby Welfare Clinic in Saint Michael (which receives a Government grant of £200 for 1930-40 and a grant of £175 from the Vestry of Saint Michael), the Family Welfare League and the Naval Welfare League, do excellent work. The Naval Welfare League entertains warrant officers, petty officers and ratings of visiting warships.

A Christ Church Baby Welfare League has also been started; a Government grant of £75 is provided for 1939-40; a grant of £12 10s. 0d. was made by the Vestry of Christ Church in 1938.

The Girls' Industrial Union provides useful training for its members in cookery, sewing, basket-making, fancy work, music, drawing and painting: exhibitions of work are held regularly. The union receives a Government grant of £100 per annum.

The Boy Scouts and Girl Guides organizations play an important part in the life of the Colony. Each receives a Government grant of £80 yearly.

There are well-organized branches of the Young Men's Christian Association (which receives a Government grant of £120 yearly) and there is a Girls' Friendly Society with a hostel.

A Children's Goodwill League, started in 1935, with quarters in Queen's Park, Saint Michael, provides a mid-day meal for poor elementary school children during the school term. The number of children catered for has reached 200; the children also receive medical and dental treatment from practitioners whose services are given free of charge. The League is supported by voluntary contributions and is run by a band of voluntary workers. A Goodwill Baby Creche with quarters in Reed Street, Bridgetown, was started in 1937 in connection with the Children's Goodwill League. The Creche receives a grant from the Vestry of Saint Michael of £75 and a Government grant of £75.

The Young Men's Progressive Club which was formed in 1935 was incorporated by a special Act (1938-27) during the year. Membership has reached nearly 200, drawn largely from among the city clerks. A piece of land for a playfield has been leased; outdoor and indoor games are provided; and in addition there is an orchestra, a concert party, and a debating society.

The principal outdoor games are cricket, football and tennis, and inter-colonial matches are played. Hockey is played at one or two schools; and there is an up-to-date golf club, a chess club, and three cinematograph theatres.

Ample facilities for sea-bathing exist along the southern and western coasts of the Island as well as at isolated spots along the eastern and northern coasts. There are three aquatic clubs and a Royal Yacht Club. Regattas are held regularly.

Queen's Park, Saint Michael, and King George V Playfield Memorial Park, Saint Philip, are open daily to the public.

The Barbados Rifle Association, composed of military and civilian members, is allowed the use of the Government rifle-range (up to 600 yards), and rifle shooting under Bisley and Service conditions is encouraged. Visiting inter-colonial competitions with Trinidad and British Guiana are carried out annually. There is also a Barbados Small-Bore Rifle Club.

There is a Carnegie Free Library under Government control and supported by public funds. A juvenile branch has been added and a branch at Speightstown.

The Barbados Museum and Historical Society was founded in 1933 and incorporated the same year. The purpose of the Society is to collect, preserve and publish matter relating to the history and antiquities of Barbados and to gather and preserve appropriate articles for a collection. The Museum is open daily. The charge for admission is 6d. for adults except on the first and third Thursdays of each month, when admission is free. No charge is made for children. Thousands of elementary school children, under the care of teachers, have visited the Museum. There is a members' library. A new gallery, called the Harewood Gallery, containing exhibits of marine animal life from the coral reefs and ocean round the Island has recently been opened. There is also a cactus garden and a herbarium. A quarterly journal is published. The Museum is situated at Saint Ann's Garrison on premises leased from the Government which has granted it assistance from its inception. A grant of £100 is provided in the 1939-40 Estimates. The Carnegie Corporation of New York (through the Museums Association of Great Britain) has also made grants amounting to £1,250.

The Barbados Choral Society gave their usual programme of Christmas music at the Cathedral, and organ recitals were given during the year.

The Police Band also played as usual at Hastings Rocks, Queen's Park, Bay Street Esplanade and the Garrison Savannah.

Radio Distribution (Barbados), Limited, inaugurated in May, 1935, distributes programmes daily to its subscribers. Wireless broadcast reception on modern multivalve receivers is fair.

XI.—COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT.

Roads.

As stated elsewhere in this Report the Island contains approximately 166 square miles of land, all of which is closely cultivated and occupied; and this comparatively small area is served by no less than 268¼ miles of main roads and approximately 270 miles of secondary roads in more or less constant use. With a population approximating 1,200 to the square mile, the problem of maintaining communications has to be approached rather from the aspect of urban than rural conditions.

In 1926 an Act was passed constituting a Central Road Board with power, under certain prescribed conditions, to assume control of and reconstruct the arterial roads radiating from Bridgetown. These roads to a large extent have been put in very good order and resurfaced to render them suitable for the exacting demands of modern traffic.

Responsibility for the repair and maintenance of the roads in the parishes of Saint Michael, Saint Andrew and Saint Lucy was transferred to the Central Road Board in the years 1927, 1936 and 1937, respectively. Outside these areas, and apart from the main highways, roads other than private roads continue to be maintained by the Highway Commissioners of the parishes concerned.

An Act of 1936 (No. 8) empowers the Central Road Board to take control of and to construct, reconstruct, repair and maintain in repair the roads set out in the Schedule thereto. In 1938-9 10 miles of these roads were taken over and reconstructed at an estimate of £1,400 a mile; £5,970 was voted for the upkeep of 153 miles of arterial roads; £2,815 for administration expenses; £3,000 for improvements and contingencies; and £600 for plant and machinery. A further sum of £4,000 was voted by special resolutions towards the repair of roads and bridges in the parishes of Saint Peter, Saint Lucy and Saint Andrew which were damaged during the heavy rainfall in November, 1938.

Omnibuses.

Owing to the configuration of the land and the improved condition of the roads which are to a large extent tarred, practically the whole Island is accessible to motor traffic.

The City of Bridgetown and suburbs are served by omnibuses running every quarter of an hour at moderate fares not exceeding 1½d. for two miles. Omnibuses leave the termini in Trafalgar Square or Beckwith Place for the seaside districts of Hastings, Rockley, Saint Lawrence, Fontabelle, Black Rock and Payne's Bay, as well as the popular inland residential districts.

The country districts are provided with an adequate daily service.

All omnibuses are now by law under the control of the Transport Board established by the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937. This Act came into operation on the 7th December, 1937.

Aircraft Landing Ground.

Seawell Aerodrome, Latitude 13° 04½′ N., Longitude 59° 29½′ W.; or 7½ miles 100° from the centre of Bridgetown, is open for use by civil aircraft. The landing ground is situated on a fairly level plateau in extent about two miles in an easterly and westerly direction and about three-quarters of a mile in a northerly and southerly direction. Four runways are being provided, each about 800 to 1,000 yards in length by 500 feet in width; one runway (east and west) is now in use and the remainder are nearing completion. The surrounding country is agricultural land rising to the north, falling steeply to the east and south and more gradually to the west of the aerodrome.

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The distance from Bridgetown to Seawell by road is 11 miles, and motor transport is readily obtainable.

The station is under the control of the Government and there is a fixed scale of landing charges varying, according to the size of the aircraft, from one shilling to 15 shillings.

Except in the case of aircraft carrying out regular scheduled flights, at least two hours' notice of the intended time of arrival should be given.

Seaplane Base.

Carlisle Bay, Latitude 13° 05½′ N.; Longitude 59° 36½′ W., situated about three-quarters of a mile southward of Bridgetown, affords a possible alighting area for seaplanes. This station is open for use by civil aircraft but permission must first be obtained from the Governor of the Colony and the probable time of arrival stated. At least two hours' notice should be given.

Barbados is situated within the limits of the north-east trade winds, and Carlisle Bay provides shelter under normal conditions with winds from the north-east to south-east. It is only on rare occasions that on-shore winds are experienced. A slight swell normally runs in a northerly or north-easterly direction in the outer part of the Bay while towards the head of the Bay the swell sets in-shore.

The landing charge for seaplanes is two shillings and sixpence, irrespective of size.

Posts.

The General Post Office is situated at Bridgetown in the parish of Saint Michael, and transacts all classes of postal business. In each of the other ten parishes there is a branch post office and there is an additional branch office at Saint Lawrence, Christ Church. A parcels C.O.D. system is in force in the Island. There is a house-to-house delivery of mails (where practicable by cycle postmen) from all post offices.

A tri-weekly air mail service is operated by K. L. M. Royal Dutch Airlines to Trinidad.

There is a good mail service in operation between Barbados and Great Britain, Canada, the West Indian Colonies and the United States of America by steamers of the undermentioned lines:—

Between Europe and the West Indies, and Central America:—

Royal Netherlands Line,
Harrison Line;
Hamburg-Amerika Line;
Compagnie-Generale Transatlantique.

Between Canada, Boston and the British West India Colonies, including British Guiana:—

Canadian National Steamship Company.

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Between the United States of America, West Indies and British Guiana:—

Aluminum Line;
Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company;
Booth Line (South America, West Indies and United States of America);
Ocean Dominion Line;
American Caribbean Steamship Company;
McCormick Steamship Company.

The number of ships bringing and taking mails are given below:—

	Steamers.		*Sailing Ships.*		*H. M. Ships.*	
	1937	*1938*	*1937*	*1938*	*1937*	*1938*
Mails for Barbados ...	489	502	12	21	43	12
Mails from Barbados	442	486	67	50	—	—

Wireless Telegraphy.

External wireless communication is maintained by the wireless telegraph station of Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited, at Bridgetown, Barbados.

Telephones.

The Barbados Telephone Company, Limited, provides a telephone service which extends throughout the Colony. The service in Bridgetown and in the surrounding thickly populated area has recently been completely re-constructed with a new central automatic exchange in Bridgetown and a branch exchange of the same type at Saint Lawrence. There are, in addition, two smaller manual branch exchanges in the country districts and the reconstruction and modernisation of these and the associated outside cable plant is now proceeding rapidly. The system consists in all of approximately 2,600 telephones.

Broadcasting.

A Wire Broadcasting (re-distributing) Service is provided by a company styled Radio Distribution (Barbados), Limited, within the thickly-populated area of Bridgetown and its suburbs and in the adjacent residential coastal areas. The Company operates under an agreement dated September, 1934, for an initial period of five years, after which if not terminated, it is subject to continuance on a year to year basis.

Telegraphs.

External telegraphic (cable) communication is provided by Cable and Wireless (West Indies), Limited, Western Telegraph Company and Western Union Telegraph Company.

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Shipping.

The number of vessels which entered the port during the year was 1,097, with a net tonnage of 2,191,793 as compared with 1,015 vessels with a tonnage of 2,055,149 during the previous year. In addition 19 ships of war, 3 fleet auxiliaries, 2 training ships and 15 yachts visited the port. One Royal Dutch airliner landed at the aerodrome.

The number of seamen engaged at the port during the year was 509; 503 were discharged and five were reported as having deserted.

The central position of Barbados secures ample sea communications. Vessels proceeding from England to Trinidad, British Guiana, Jamaica and mainland ports of the north coast of South America, and the Panama Canal, call at Barbados *en route* and again on their return journey to England. Particulars of the steamship lines serving the Colony are given below.

The Harrison Line operate a freight and passenger service sailing from London every four weeks; and a freight service from both London and Liverpool fortnightly and from Glasgow every three weeks.

The Royal Netherlands Steamship Company run two services:—

(*a*) The Colon Line fortnightly from Hamburg via Amsterdam, Boulogne, Dover, Madeira, Barbados, Trinidad, the Spanish Main and Central American Ports. Three of these ships also call at Jamaica. When homeward bound these vessels proceed direct from Barbados to Plymouth, thence via Havre to Amsterdam and Hamburg;

(*b*) The Surinam Line (as from November, 1938) every three weeks, from Amsterdam via Dover to Barbados, Trinidad, British and Dutch Guiana, the Spanish Main and Port-au-Prince to New York. When homeward bound these vessels proceed from Barbados to Maderia, Plymouth, Havre and Amsterdam.

The Hamburg-Amerika Line operate a monthly service sailing from Hamburg via Antwerp, Dover, Cherbourg, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guayra, Puerto Cabello, Curacao, Puerto Colombia, Cartagena, Cristobal to Port Limon. On the return journey these vessels call at Plymouth and Amsterdam.

Freighters of the same Line call at Barbados at irregular intervals when outward bound *en route* to the Spanish Main.

The Compagnie-Generale Transatlantique provide a monthly service from Havre via Southampton, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Barbados, Trinidad, the Spanish Main and Central American ports, and return, calling at Plymouth instead of Southampton.

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This Company also furnishes an inter-colonial service from Martinique, calling at Saint Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad, the Guianas and return.

The Canadian National Steamship Company operate a fortnightly freight and passenger service from Halifax via Boston, Bermuda, the Leeward Islands, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Saint Vincent, Grenada, Trinidad and British Guiana. On the homeward voyage these vessels call at Saint John, N.B. Freight steamers of the same Line, two of which also have passenger accommodation, arrive fortnightly or monthly from Canada and West Indian ports. The sum of £29,000 per annum is contributed by the Colonies affected towards the steamship service. Of this sum £5,000 is paid by Barbados.

The Ocean and Dominion Steamship Corporation (Dominion Service) also provide a fortnightly freight service from Canadian ports.

Freighters chartered by the Canadian Transport Company call at Barbados once a month from Vancouver, B.C.

The McCormick Steamship Corporation operate a monthly freight and passenger service sailing from British Columbia, San Francisco, via the Panama Canal to South American ports returning via Barbados, Trinidad and other West Indian ports.

Communication between New York and Barbados is provided by vessels of the Bermuda and West Indies Steamship Company (Furness Withy) and the American Caribbean Line.

Ships of the Aluminum Line sail fortnightly from New Orleans and call at Gulf ports, Jamaica, Guadeloupe, Martinique and Barbados *en route* to Trinidad and British and Dutch Guiana. On the return journey these ships call at Trinidad and Jamaica.

XII.—PUBLIC WORKS.

The Public Works Department is responsible for the maintenance of waterworks and the construction of new works in connection therewith, for all other Government constructional work, for the maintenance of bridges, wharves, lighthouses and Government buildings, including the military properties. The department is not responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads, other than roads on Government property (see Chapter XI).

Works of importance in progress during the year were:—

(1) The improvement of the water supply, the cost of which is estimated to be £142,000. This is nearing completion, and includes the construction of three new covered service reservoirs each holding over one million gallons; one reservoir is completed and in use.

(2) The erection of a tuberculosis hospital for the Parish of Christ Church, at an estimated cost of £1,100. Completed.

(3) The construction of an aircraft landing-ground with four runways. Nearing completion and already in use.

(4) The erection of four new elementary school buildings at Richmond, Boscobelle, Trents, and Saint Simons. Completed.

(5) Government Laboratory at Harrison College. In progress.

(6) The erection of a building containing 12 rooms and a large recreation hall to provide additional accommodation for female patients at the Mental Hospital; the erection of one surgery for males and another for females, two kitchens for female and pay wards, and extensions and alterations to provide further accommodation at the Mental Hospital farm. Completed.

(7) The erection of a steel-lined fire- water- and burglar-resisting strongroom, for the Colonial Treasurer and Commissioners of Currency. Completed.

(8) The erection of a Police sub-station at Speightstown. In progress.

(9) Extensive alterations and additions to the Police substation at Britton's Hill. Completed.

XIII.—JUSTICE, POLICE AND PRISONS.

Justice.

The Chief Justice is appointed by His Majesty the King and presides over the Superior Courts of the Island, viz., the Courts of Chancery, Common Pleas, Grand Sessions, Vice-Admiralty, Divorce and Matrimonial Causes, Ordinary, Bankruptcy, Escheat and Error. An appeal from the decisions of any of these Courts except the Court of Grand Sessions lies to both the West Indian Court of Appeal and to the Privy Council or to either. In the case of the Court of Grand Sessions the Chief Justice may in his discretion reserve a question of law for decision by the West Indian Court of Appeal. The Chief Justice is also required to sit on appeals to the West Indian Court of Appeal from any of the other Colonies adhering thereto. Section 7 of Act 1936-50 limits the Jurisdiction of the Court of Divorce and Matrimonial Causes.

The Court of Grand Sessions is held three times a year in the months of March, July and November. The Grand Jury have to present true bills for this Court.

There is an Assistant Court of Appeal consisting of two Judges, having jurisdiction as a Court of first instance and as a Court of Review. In its original jurisdiction this Court determines suits between £20 and £50 in amount in cases arising out of contract, and between £10 and £50 in cases arising out of tort, and suits in equity not exceeding £500 in value. In its appellate jurisdiction the Court reviews the decisions of the Judge of the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown and the several Police Magistrates. An appeal from this Court on any point of law as well as of fact lies to the Court of Error.

There is a separate Judge appointed for the Petty Debt Court of Bridgetown with jurisdiction limited to £20 in case of contract and £10 in case of tort.

There are two Police Magistrates appointed for the City and suburbs, and four for the rural districts who are also Judges of the Petty Debt Courts of those districts.

The Juvenile Offenders Act, 1932-22, came into operation on the 1st of September, 1932. Juvenile Courts are thereby established for hearing charges against children (under 14 years) and young persons (14 years and under 16). The method of procedure is also prescribed. The Court can dispose of any charge other than homicide brought against a child without reference to the parent or guardian.

The revised estimate of Expenditure for the legal departments for the year 1938-9 is £14,509.

Police.

The Police Force is composed of a Commissioner, a Deputy Commissioner, three Superintendents (one of whom is also Assistant Superintendent of Fire Brigade), three Assistant Superintendents and 556 non-commissioned officers and men. Of these, one Sergeant-Major and 43 men form the Harbour Police, and their duties are confined to the control of the Harbour.

A Band consisting of 22 non-commissioned officers and men and five cadets, under the direction of a Bandmaster, is attached to the Force.

The Commissioner is Commandant of the Local Forces and is also Superintendent of the Fire Brigade.

Fire Brigade.

The Fire Brigade consists of a foreman and 24 non-commissioned officers and firemen.

Prisons.

Glendairy Prison in the parish of Saint Michael, is the only prison in the Colony and has cellular accommodation for 275 males and 125 females. Male prisoners are classified for the purpose of training and to minimise contamination. Instruction is given in carpentry, tailoring, breadmaking and other crafts. Labour consists of stone-quarrying, stone-breaking and the upkeep of Government lands outside the prison. Female prisoners do the cooking and clothes-washing for the whole prison.

The Medical Officer visits the prison daily; he examines all prisoners on admission and prescribes for the sick.

The Church of England Chaplain visits the prison three times a week and holds a service on Sundays and Festivals; he is also responsible for the supervision of the schools.

Apart from a mild epidemic of influenza during September, the general health of the prisoners during 1938 was good.

The following is the comparative statement for the last three years: —

	1936	*1937*	*1938*
Total number of persons imprisoned... ...	962	1,627	1,068
Sentenced to terms of one year or more ...	23	222	52
Daily average (males)	130	215	320
Daily average (females)	19	33	47

XIV.—LEGISLATION.

Acts.

The following is a list of the more important Acts passed during the period 31st March, 1938, to 19th January, 1939.

1938.

No. 11. An Act to make provision for the partial suspension of the operation of the Police Tax Act, 1891 (1891-29), as regards the tax on land.

No. 12. An Act to amend the Department of Science and Agriculture Act, 1925 (1925-32), as amended by the Department of Science and Agriculture (Amendment) Act, 1935 (1935-63). This Act increased the staff of the Department of Science and Agriculture by providing for the appointment of a Junior Peasants' Agricultural Instructor.

No. 16. An Act to amend the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1928, No. 2 (1928-25), as amended by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1929 (1929-21), and by the Petroleum (Amendment) Act, 1930 (1930-8). This Act increased the charge per gallon on withdrawal of volatile petroleum from the Petroleum Warehouse from 3d. in addition to other charges to 6½d. in addition to such charges. It also increased the charge per gallon on withdrawal of volatile petroleum from any other authorised storehouse from 3d. to 6½d. The provisions of this Act should be read in conjunction with those of Act No. 17.

No. 17. An Act to amend the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1926 (1926-25), as amended by the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1932 (1932-35). This Act reduced the duty on crude petroleum and on motor spirits including benzine, benzoline, petrol, naphtha and petroleum spirits generally. To a certain extent it counteracts the effect of Act No. 16.

No. 18. An Act to make provision for the fixing of a minimum wage for labour.

No. 19. An Act to make provision for the purchase and development of certain properties in the Island of Saint Lucia.

No. 20. An Act to impose a tax on packages imported into this Island.

No. 35. An Act to amend the Teachers Pension Act, 1925 (1925-29). This Act allows a pensionable teacher to elect to receive a gratuity and reduced pension in lieu of an ordinary pension.

No. 36. An Act to amend the Police Act, 1908 (1908-2).

No. 37. An Act to amend the Barbados General Hospital (Amendment) Act, 1925 (1925-33).

Acts Nos. 36 and 37 have the same effect with regard to members of the Police Force and servants of the Hospital Board respectively as Act No. 35 has with regard to teachers.

No. 42. An Act to carry out certain Conventions relating to the employment of women, young persons and children. This Act imposes restrictions on the employment of children, young persons and women in industrial undertakings.

No. 44. An Act to make provision for the appointment of a Labour Officer.

No. 45. An Act to amend the Education Loan Act, 1935 (1935-63), as amended by the Education Loan (Amendment) Act, 1936, No. 2 (1936-47). This Act provides for further expenditure on erecting additional class rooms in first and second grade and elementary schools.

No. 55. An Act to make provision for the control of the manufacture and export of sugar made in this Island.

No. 58. An Act to amend the Bridgetown Housing Act, 1938 (1938-58). This Act authorises the Housing Board to require the owner of any boarded and shingled house in Bridgetown which stands on less than 1,600 square feet of land to remove such house.

1939.

No. 1. An Act to amend the Friendly Societies Act, 1905 (1905-1). This Act provides that in future the accounts of friendly societies shall be audited by the Auditor-General.

No. 2. An Act to provide for the supervision of the weighing of canes.

No. 3. An Act to amend the Customs Tariff Act, 1921 (1921-20), as amended by the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1926 (1926-25), and by the Customs Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1932, No. 2 (1932-35). This Act gives effect to a Trade Agreement entered into between the United Kingdom and the United States of America, whereby the High Contracting Parties granted certain reciprocal concessions and advantages in order to facilitate and extend mutual relations of trade and commerce.

Subsidiary Legislation.

Proclamations.

1. Fixing the 1st of April, 1938, as the date of the coming into operation of the Government Currency Notes (Barbados) Act, 1937.
2. Fixing the 16th of April, 1938, as the date of the coming into operation of the Geneva Convention Act, 1937 (Colonies) Order-in-Council, 1937.
3. Fixing the 1st of May, 1938, as the date of the coming into operation of the Old Age Pension Act, 1937.
4. Fixing the 19th of May, 1938, as the date of the coming into operation of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, 1937.
5. Proclaiming that Thursday, the 9th of June, 1938, the day appointed for the celebration of the birthday of His Majesty the King, shall be kept as a Bank Holiday.
6. Appointing Sunday, the 3rd of July, 1938, a day of supplication to Almighty God for deliverance from storm and other calamities.

Orders.

1. Order prohibiting the importation of tear gas, gas grenades, lachrymatory bullets or of any equipment for use in connection therewith.
2. Carriage by Air (Parties to Convention) Order, 1938.
3. Importation of Textiles (Quotas) Order, 1938.

Regulations.

1. The Barbados Fancy Molasses Production and Export Regulations, 1938; and Rates payable in accordance with regulations 5 and 6 thereof.
2. The Public Trustee Rules, 1938.
3. The Old Age Pension Regulations, 1938.
4. The Volunteer Regulations, 1938.
5. The Petroleum (Amendment) Regulations, 1937.
6. Amendment to the Scheme for the establishment and management of the Saint Michael's Girls' School establishing a system of Bursaries.
7. The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Regulations, 1938, and amendments thereto.

XV.—BANKING, CURRENCY, AND WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

Three private banks are operating in the Colony—Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas), the Royal Bank of Canada and the Canadian Bank of Commerce. The paid-up capitals are respectively £4,975,500, $35,000,000 and $30,000,000.

The Government Savings Bank.

There is a Government Savings Bank, in which at the end of the year there were 17,041 depositors, the total sum to their credit being £873,754. The value of the invested funds was £1,040,834. The figures for 1937 were: number of depositors, 16,160; deposits, £843,169; invested funds, £937,587. The number of depositors has increased by 881 and the total amount to their credit by £30,585. The rate of interest paid on deposits is 3 per cent.; since the 30th April, 1933, there has been a limit of £300 on new deposits.

The Peasants' Loan Bank.

The Peasants' Loan Bank was established in 1937 with a capital of £10,000 to be advanced from the Public Treasury as the Bank from time to time shall require.

The objects of the Bank are to make loans for the payment of taxes and labour, for the purchase of artificial manures and to enable peasant proprietors to bring back into cultivation holdings abandoned through lack of capital.

Peasant owners are persons owning 10 acres of land and under.

The Bank is constituted a body corporate. It is controlled by a Board of Directors consisting of five members appointed as follows:—The Director of Agriculture, appointed by the Governor, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, two members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Island. The staff at present consists of a Manager.

The accounts of the Bank are audited by the Auditor General, who forwards to Government a report on such audit. This report is published in the Official Gazette.

During the year 1937-8 loans amounting to £777 18s. 4d. were advanced to 161 persons, and during the year 1938-9 loans amounting to £1,034 3s. 4d. were advanced to 186 persons.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank.

The Sugar Industry Agricultural Bank was established in 1907 and founded on a grant of £80,000 made by the Imperial Treasury in 1902 in order to assist the sugar industry of the Colony.

From the year 1902 to the year 1907 the grant was administered by the Governor-in-Executive Committee assisted by an Advisory Board appointed by the Governor.

The Bank is now controlled by a Board consisting of seven members appointed as follows:—The Colonial Secretary, Chairman, *ex-officio*, one member appointed sessionally by the Legislative Council, four members appointed sessionally by the House of Assembly, and one member appointed by the Agricultural Society of the Colony. The Bank's Auditor is appointed by, and reports annually to, the House of Assembly. The staff, which consists of a manager and one clerk, is appointed by the Board.

The net profit of the Bank for the year ended on the 31st of May, 1938, after deducting expenses, including income tax, trade tax, Government fees for recording and cancelling certificates of loan, and salaries, amounted to £5,348 3s. 6d.

The capital of the Bank at the end of May, 1938, was £247,338, as compared with £241,990 at the corresponding date in 1937.

The expenditure for the year was £2,843 11s. 2d., as compared with £3,093 for the previous year.

Currency.

The only change in the type of currency in circulation during 1938 was the issue of $1.00 and $2.00 Government currency notes on the 8th April. These notes are legal tender throughout the Colony.

Accounts are kept in sterling by Government Departments and in dollars and cents by banking and commercial houses. British coin is legal tender and the chief medium of circulation. The banks issue five-dollar notes equivalent to £1 0s. 10d., the exchange value being fixed at $4.80 to the pound sterling.

Weights and Measures.

The standard of weights and superficial measure is the same as in the United Kingdom, but the standard measure of capacity is less than the standard measure of capacity in the United Kingdom, the local standard being 231 cubic inches to the gallon (known as the wine gallon).

XVI.—PUBLIC FINANCE AND TAXATION.

Revenue and Expenditure.

The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of the Colony for the past five years:—

	Revenue. £	*Expenditure.* £
1934–5	479,960	414,109
1935–6	530,644	463,147
1936–7	483,142	460,869
1937–8	528,278	546,274
1938–9	559,484	560,038

Included in the figures are several items of capital expenditure which will in due course be transferred to loan account. The balance in the Treasury, apart from the reserve fund set out hereunder, on the 31st March, 1939, was £189,497.

Special Funds.

	£	s.	d.
Public Buildings Insurance Fund	80,182	2	11
Water Boat Renewal Fund...	17,761	7	0
Red Cross Fund	1,053	19	1
Public Officers Security Fund	13,397	0	5
Special Reserve Fund	100,000	0	0
Pension Act, 1925	45,036	19	0
Reparation Payments Fund	4,604	16	0
	£262,036	4	5

Revenue.

The revenue for 1938-9 shows an increase of £31,206 over that of the previous year, the principal heads showing increases being Income Tax (£32,194) and Gasolene Tax (£18,197). The principal decreases in revenue were Customs (£15,059) and Post Office (£12,780). The decrease under all heads was £33,272, and the increase totalled £64,478.

Expenditure.

The expenditure for 1938-9 was £560,038, an increase of £13,764 as compared with that of the previous year. The largest departmental expenditure occurs under the heads

" Police," " Education," " Medical," " Public Works," " Pensions," " Charges of Debt," " [illegible]tral Road Board." The expenditure under these heads was as follows:—

	£	*Compared with 1937–8.*	£
Police	61,132	an increase of	10,014
Education	65,297	"	3,804
Medical	55,225	"	1,094
Public Works	45,467	"	4,656
Pensions...	33,963	"	416
Charges of Debt	23,848	"	2,374
Central Road Board	25,136	a decrease of	1,777
	£310,068		

The total expenditure of these seven departments, £310,068, represents 55 per cent. of the total administration expenses.

Public Debt.

The Public Debt at the 31st March, 1939, was £449,170, the Sinking Fund on that date being £70,118 as compared with £442,220 and £66,126 respectively in 1938. The loan position at the end of March, 1939, was as follows:—

Name of Loan.	Amount of Loan.			Amount outstanding.			Sinking Fund.			Date Redeemable.	
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	
Public Loan Act, 1914, and Reimbursement Acts, 1914 and 1916	37,000	0	0	37,000	0	0	15,385	15	2	11,000 6,000 20,000	1961 1963 1964
Public Loan Act, 1928	90,000	0	0	90,000	0	0	8,428	8	4	25,000 65,000	1941–78 1941–78
General Local Loan Act, 1933 (No. 25) and Redemption Acts, 1933, (Nos. 26 and 46).	140,920	0	0	140,920	0	0	38,374	18	7		1944–64
Water Works Loan Act, 1935	155,500	0	0	155,500	0	0	7,088	16	1		1961
Education Loan Act, 1935–63	25,750	0	0	25,750	0	0	840	9	8	18,800 6,950	1956–66 1958–68
	£449,170	0	0	£449,170	0	0	£70,118	7	10		

XVII.—MISCELLANEOUS.

The rainfall during the year was the heaviest since 1896. In November, 30 inches were recorded in some of the Leeward Parishes, and there were serious landslides which did much damage to property but none to life. In Saint Andrew, Saint Joseph and Saint Peter roads and bridges were washed away. Sugar-cane and other crops were damaged and water supplies were interrupted. The Legislature immediately voted a sum of £5,000 for the repair of roads and bridges, and a sum of £500 for the relief of distress among the poor whose houses were damaged or had to be removed in consequence of the landslides. A sum of £500 was also raised by private subscriptions and applied to relief. When it was possible for the damage to be accurately assessed a further sum of £4,725 was voted to enable repairs to roads and bridges to be completed.

The first part of the West India Royal Commission, appointed towards the end of the summer of 1938, consisting of Sir Edward Stubbs, G.C.M.G., Vice-Chairman, Sir Percy MacKinnon, Mr. Hubert Henderson, the late Mr. Morgan Jones, M.P., and Dr. Mary Blacklock, with Mr. C. Y. Carstairs as Assistant Secretary, arrived in Barbados on the 14th January. Public sessions began at Queen's House on the 16th January.

The remainder of the Commission consisting of the Right Honourable the Lord Moyne, Chairman, Sir Walter Citrine, K.B.E., Professor F. Engledow, C.M.G., Mr. R. Assheton, M.P., and Dame Rachel Crowdy, with Mr. T. I. K. Lloyd as Secretary, arrived on the 19th January, and (except Mr. Assheton, whose place was taken by Mr. Henderson) left on the 25th January. The sittings of the Commission ended on the afternoon of the 1st February.

The Honourable Mr. G. Laurie Pile, C.B.E., was appointed President of the Legislative Council in succession to the Honourable Sir J. R. Phillips, Kt., O.B.E., who resigned in January, 1938.

The first biennial session of the House of Assembly, which hitherto had been elected annually, opened on the 15th February, 1938, and was prorogued on the 12th January, 1939. The Legislative Session resumed on the 7th February.

The customary observance of Armistice Day was held in the precincts of the Public Buildings; wreaths were laid on the War Memorial.

During 1938 and the spring of 1939, several of his Majesty's Ships including H.M.S. *Ajax*, H.M.S. *Vindictive*, H.M.S. *York* (Flag Ship), and H.M.S. *Dundee* (in which some of the members of the West India Royal Commission travelled) visited the Colony. His Majesty's Canadian Ships *Venture*, *Saguenay* and *eena* also spent some time in Barbados as did the *Davis, Lexington* and *Ranger* of the United States Navy; the Dutch Cruiser *Gelderland* and two submarines; the Danish Training Ship *Danmark* and the German Battleship *Schlesien*.

Honours were conferred by His Majesty the King on the following:—

The Right Reverend D. W. Bentley, D.D., Lord Bishop of Barbados—C.B.E.

Colonel W. S. Dickens, M.B.E., Commissioner of Police—O.B.E.

Mr. G. D. L. Pile, M.C.P.—O.B.E.

Mr. J. Ward, Secretary, Barbados General Hospital—M.B.E.

Mr. J. F. Blackman, Head Teacher, Saint Luke's Boys' School—I.S.M.

Mr. R. T. Goodman, Sergeant-Major, Barbados Police Force—I.S.M.

Miss M. Blenman, Head Teacher, Saint Philip's Girls' School—I.S.M.

Mr. J. A. Small, Foreman Turncock, Public Works Department—I.S.M.

The Governor, Sir Mark Young, K.C.M.G., who had been acting as Governor of Trinidad, returned to the Colony on the 23rd February, 1938, and resumed duty. Sir Mark Young left Barbados on the 2nd March, on appointment as Governor of Tanganyika Territory, and was succeeded by Mr. E. J. Waddington, C.M.G., O.B.E., who arrived in the Colony on the 6th August.

Mr. G. D. Owen, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, was transferred to British Guiana and was succeeded by Major W. H. Flinn, O.B.E., who arrived in September, 1938.

Mr. Waddington left Barbados on the 20th March, 1939, to assume temporarily the administration of the Government of British Guiana.

The Honourable Lieutenant-Colonel W. Bowring, M.B.E., E.D., relinquished the command of the Barbados Volunteer Force in December, 1938, and was transferred to the Reserve of Officers. He was succeeded as Commanding Officer by Lieutenant-Colonel H. Wilkin, M.B.E., M.C., late of the Queen's Royal West Kent Regiment. Captain R. F. F. Gillespie, South Wales Borderers, assumed duties as Staff Officer and Adjutant in February, 1939.

The Reverend W. M. Richards, Vicar of Saint Matthias, was appointed to be Rector of the parish of St. Michael and Dean of Saint Michael's Cathedral in succession to the Very Reverend A. Shankland, who retired from the office of Dean in October, 1938, and was subsequently appointed to be Archdeacon of Barbados.

APPENDIX.

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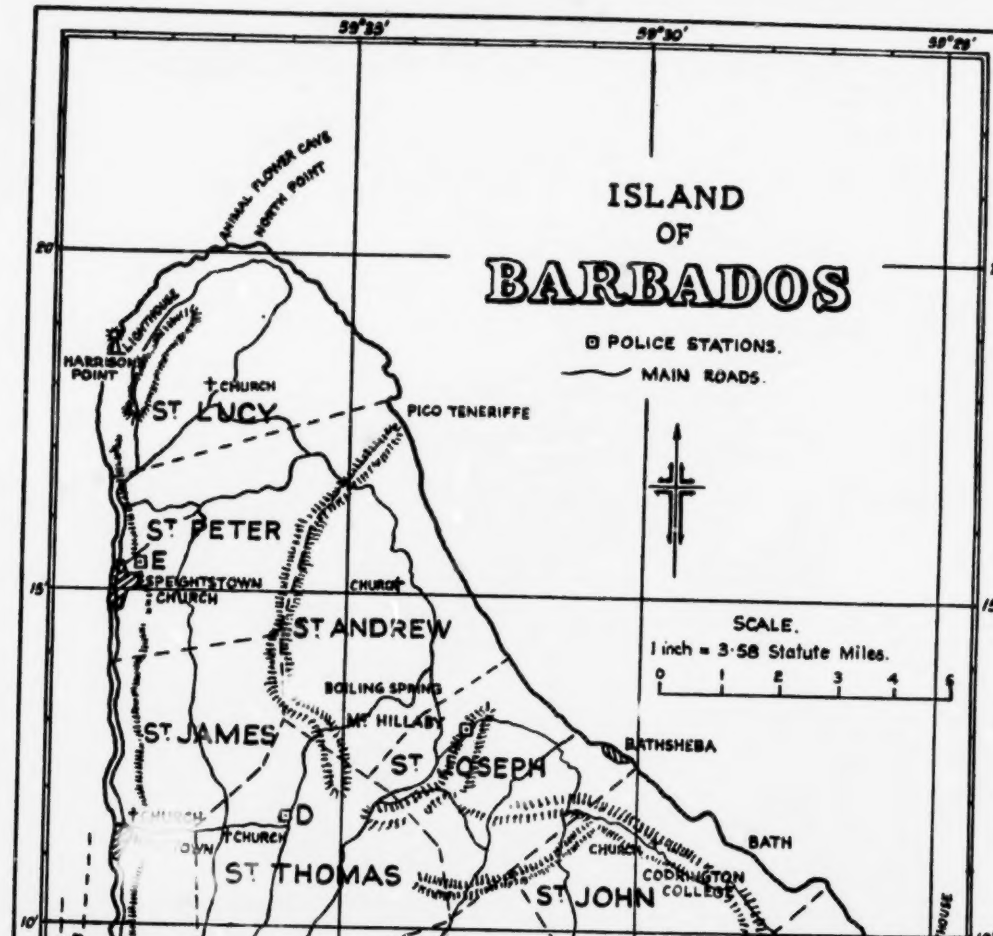
ISLAND OF BARBADOS
▫ POLICE STATIONS.
〜 MAIN ROADS.
SCALE.
1 inch = 3·58 Statute Miles.
0 1 2 3 4 5
59°35'
59°30'
59°25'
20'
15'
10'
5'
ANIMAL FLOWER CAVE
NORTH POINT
LIGHTHOUSE
HARRISONS POINT
CHURCH
ST LUCY
PICO TENERIFFE
ST PETER
E
SPEIGHTSTOWN
CHURCH
CHURCH
ST ANDREW
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ST JAMES
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BATHSHEBA
CHURCH
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RAGGED POINT
THREE HOUSES
GUN HILL
LAZARETTO
BUSHY PARK
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CHURCH
ST PHILIP
CHURCH
DODDS REFORMATORY
ST MICHAEL
PRISON
A
NEW LUNATIC ASYLUM
BULKLEY
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SUNBURY
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